

Iraq attacks OPEC 'undercutting'

RIYADH (AP) — Iraqi Oil Minister Qasem Ahmad Taqi lashed Tuesday at what he called the "selfish attitudes" of unidentified Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) member-states for allegedly undercutting oil prices on the world market. In an interview with the Saudi Arabian newspaper Al-Yaum, Mr. Taqi said such behaviour would lead to a deterioration in the OPEC-decreed production and pricing system and "bring harm to all without exception." The 13 members of the OPEC had agreed to an aggregate production ceiling of 17.5 million barrels daily and a benchmark price of \$29 per barrel in March 1983 in face of a glut on the world oil market. Mr. Taqi said that the OPEC members violating the pattern were resorting to a "multitude of means that led to visible or invisible price cuts."

Greece to buy up to 100 fighters

ATHENS (R) — Greece said Tuesday it has decided to buy 60 to 100 U.S. or French fighter planes for an expected \$3 billion and to modernise army and navy armaments. Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu said the purchase of planes for Greece's defence would include two of three types — the French Mirage 2000 or the U.S. F-16 and F-18 — under consideration. He added negotiations should be concluded by the end of September. Tuesday's announcement after an inner cabinet meeting gave no details of the planned army-navy modernisation. Greece has been committed since 1980 to a major aircraft renewal in order to keep a balance with neighbouring Turkey. The planes' expected price tag of \$3 billion would make this the biggest arms deal in Greek history.

Spain to try 4 Iranians

MADRID (AP) — Four Iranians were sent to the Carabanchel prison here on Tuesday pending trial on charges of planned terrorist activities that included the assassination of one person or persons and the hijacking in Spain of a Saudi Arabian airliner. The four, were arrested in Barcelona and Madrid last week and a cache of weapons, including anti-tank grenade launchers and explosives, was seized from them. The cultural attaché at the Iranian embassy in Madrid, Mohammad Jafar Niknam, was expelled from Spain charged with being the man who would supply the four others the weapons to carry out their plans.

Algeria not to quit OPEC

PARIS (R) — Algeria Tuesday strongly denied it was planning to pull out of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). A statement from the Ministry of Energy and Chemical and Petroleum Industries denounced "certain Western media" for "exaggerating the situation on the petroleum market and invoking the break-up of OPEC." The statement, reported by the Algerian news agency APS received in Paris, said: "This fantasy campaign (in Western media) is trying to discredit the idea that Iran, Nigeria and Algeria were withdrawing from OPEC, allegations moreover denied by these countries."

Israelis worried over Kahane

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Attorney-General Yitzhak Zamir warned Tuesday that anti-Arab extremist Rabbi Meir Kahane was undermining law and order and provoking crime. Justice Ministry sources said. They quoted remarks by Mr. Zamir at a meeting of senior Justice Ministry officials and police officers called to discuss Rabbi Kahane's actions since he was elected to parliament last week.

Egypt proposes OAU talks in U.S.

CAIRO (R) — Egypt proposed Tuesday that foreign ministers of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) should meet in New York in September to try to settle a dispute over convening the next OAU summit, foreign ministry officials said. They said Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid made the proposal when he met Ivory Coast Ambassador Kouame Koffi.

Vellayati arrives in Turkey

ANKARA (R) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Vellayati arrived in Ankara Tuesday for talks with Turkish officials that were expected to focus on the Iran-Iraq war. Mr. Vellayati, who was met at Ankara airport by Turkish Foreign Minister Yashar Hafiloglu, said in a statement: "We hope that this visit will be in the interests of the two countries and two nations."

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Soviet plan gathers support as envoy arrives in Amman

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — Kuwait and Britain Tuesday welcomed the Soviet call for an international conference on the Middle East as a senior Soviet official arrived in Amman for talks expected to focus on the Soviet proposal.

In Paris, the French External Affairs Ministry announced that the government was studying the Soviet proposal. A ministry spokesman said the proposal was more detailed and clearer than previous calls by the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union on Sunday called for an international conference including the United States, the Soviet Union, Israel and all Arab states bordering it. The Soviet proposals said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) also should be allowed to participate. The proposal said participants in the conference should agree to proposals, including the return of lands occupied by Israel since 1967, the creation of an Independent Palestinian state and the return of Eastern Jerusalem to Arab sovereignty. Kuwait became the first Gulf state Tuesday to support the proposal. The Kuwait News Agency reported the Kuwaiti position after a meeting between Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah and Soviet Charge d'Affaires Michael Bopov. The news agency said Mr. Bopov handed Sheikh Sabah a copy of the six-point Soviet proposal. Sheikh Sabah expressed hope the Soviet proposal would acquire the support of "the concerned parties and lead to a lasting and just peace in the Middle East," the agency said. The British attitude towards the proposal came in an interview published by the Kuwaiti newspaper Al Qabas with British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Richard Luce. Al Qabas quoted Mr. Luce as saying: "If that conference contributes to achieve peace, then we welcome it." He added: "But we cannot impose the solution on the concerned parties because that would be a grave error."

"We think that the concerned parties should reach a common ground for negotiations because we need a conference that could effectively lead to a solution," Mr. Luce said.

Mr. Luce told Al Qabas: "British support for the Soviet initiative came



Vladimir Boliakov (centre), head of the Middle East Department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, who arrived in Amman Tuesday on a three-day visit, talks with senior Jordanian officials upon arrival (Peta photo)

as Vladimir Boliakov, head of the Middle East Department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, arrived in Amman and the Associated Press said he was expected to meet His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat for talks on the Soviet proposal. Mr. Boliakov's visit comes as part of a Middle East tour that will take him to Lebanon and other Middle East countries. On Monday, Israel and the United States rejected the Soviet initiative. Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir's spokesman described the proposal as a "propaganda play" and "an idea that will not work." A U.S. State Department spokesman said in Washington: "The question of an international conference has come up many times, the United States has always been opposed to it." He added that Washington does not see where a Soviet participation in such a conference "would be helpful."

Interviewed in London by Al Qabas, Mr. Luce also urged the upcoming new Israeli government to demonstrate its readiness for a Middle East solution by freezing the establishment of Jewish settlements on the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, and declaring its intention to evacuate the occupied Arab territories.

"We want to see the government in Israel demonstrating palpable evidence of its desire for peace and this means relinquishing the policy of establishing new settlements because such settlements are illegal, and announcing its readiness to withdraw from occupied Arab territories," the minister said in the interview published in Arabic.

"A step like that on the part of the new Israeli government would improve the chances for peace," he said.

Mr. Luce warned that the present deadlock in the Middle East crisis would lead to "more desperation, extremism and acts of violence."

He said that an Arab-Israeli solution must be based on the twin principles of self-determination for the Palestinians and the right of Israel to live within secure and recognised boundaries.

Lebanon seeks to deploy army in occupied south

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's army, commander, General Michel Aoun, indicated Tuesday he would seek to deploy soldiers in southern Lebanon if they prove capable of maintaining peace in Beirut. Israeli troops have occupied the south since their June 1982 invasion of Lebanon, and Israel has refused to withdraw until Lebanon can "guarantee the safety" of its northern borders. Gen. Aoun, speaking on the eve of Lebanese Armed Forces Day, told troops in his order of the day: "Other tasks await you outside Beirut." "The south, which suffers along with its people, will find security and will recover sovereignty and freedom if you are determined this should occur and if you are qualified for this role there," he added. Under an Israeli troop withdrawal accord reached with Lebanon in May 1983, two army brigades were to have replaced Israeli forces in the south. Last March, however, Lebanese President Amin Gemayel abrogated the accord and Lebanon subsequently refused to conduct any direct negotiations with Israel on a troop withdrawal. General Aoun said the army's success in removing militiamen from the streets of Beirut and efforts to dismantle the "green line" between mostly Muslim and mainly Christian sectors had contributed to the gradual return of normal life to the capital. The Lebanese army, which split along sectarian lines during battles with militias last September and in February, was re-united this month under a peace plan that ended five months of fighting between rival forces. The Beirut peace plan, which called for militiamen to disarm and disappear from the streets, was marked by a two-hour battle between west Beirut militias on Sunday. But army troops later moved in to separate the fighters. Brigadier Mohammad Hajji, commander of a 5,000-man garrison in Beirut, said the army will open two new road crossings Wednesday between east and west Beirut to coincide with Armed Forces Day ceremonies. Also on Wednesday, the "national unity" government is expected to discuss extending the peace plan to the foothills and mountains southeast of Beirut. On Monday, rival forces exchanged artillery and small-arms fire for several hours near the mountain town of Souq Al Gharb, security sources said. Sporadic small-arms clashes continued Tuesday around Souq Al Gharb and between the foothill villages of Kfarshima and Shweifat, they added. No casualties were reported.

Luce calls for withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon, page 2

Resistance forces attack Israeli allies

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — Resistance forces attacked members of the Israeli-backed "South Lebanon army" militia at a checkpoint outside the village of Arab Salim Tuesday, security sources said. Israeli troops sealed off the area, six kilometres north of the market town of Nabatieh, after the attack and no further details were available, the sources added. The Israeli occupation forces are planning to give the mainly Christian "South Lebanon army" a greater "security role" in the Nabatieh area, Israeli military sources said. Earlier Tuesday, Israeli troops arrested at least 35 refugees in 'Ain Al Hilweh Palestinian refugee camp in South Lebanon Tuesday after cars with loudspeakers toured its streets Monday calling for a general uprising, residents said. They said the troops, on foot and in armoured vehicles, entered the camp at 1 a.m. (2200 GMT) and broke into houses to make the arrests. The people in the cars Monday evening said they were from the previously unknown "Palestinian Resistance Front" — Special For-

Resistance forces attack Israeli allies

ces." They urged the 20,000 refugees in the camp to take up arms against the Israeli occupation forces. "Ain Al Hilweh has been in ferment since Israeli troops shot dead a 17-year-old Palestinian, Mohammad Kamel Mabroukeh, outside the camp near Sidon on Friday night. Israeli military sources said Israeli troops found Mabroukeh planning a roadside bomb. His family said he was out walking with two friends.

Tyre port closed

Israeli military officials in Tel Aviv said Israeli troops closed the southern Lebanese port of Tyre this week to set up new security measures along the coast, military officials said Tuesday. They noted there had been an increase recently in attacks on Israeli soldiers in the Tyre area and said Israel hoped to prevent commandos and weapons from arriving by sea. The officials did not say what the new measures would be or when the port would re-open, but they indicated that shipping into the port would be more limited than before.

Israelis arrest 35

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Air France plane hijacked with 64 people on board

GENEVA (Agencies) — An Air France plane, hijacked on a flight from Frankfurt to Paris, was headed for Beirut Tuesday night amid reports from the Lebanese capital that it would refuse the Boeing 737 landing rights. It was not immediately known how many hijackers there were, nor whether they were armed, or what their nationalities were. Geneva State Councillor Robert Ducret said the plane was commandeered by two or three men speaking "poor Arabic" and that the pilot told of hearing "shots fired." He said the pilot, who was not identified, said the hijackers told him that "there may have been a death." The plane, a Boeing 737, carried 58 passengers and a crew of six. The hijackers demanded to be flown to Tehran but then decided on Beirut after Iranian authorities sent word that the plane would be refused permission to land in the Iranian capital. The aircraft was refuelled in agreement with Air France, and took off less than two hours after landing in Geneva. Mr. Ducret said the negotiations were conducted by radio from the airport control tower through the captain of the plane and not directly with the hijackers, who were in the cockpit beside the pilot. Officials in the control tower overheard a hijacker tell the captain there was one dead, but when the officials offered an ambulance, the captain said it was not needed, Mr. Ducret said. Airport Director Philippe Rochat said the hijackers had threatened to blow up the plane if it was not refuelled quickly. Air France said the plane had been carrying a crew of six. French security sources said three Iranians had seized the plane. A police spokesman here confirmed the number and added that they were armed with hand grenades. The spokesman said it appeared there might have been a scuffle aboard the plane but he had no details. In Beirut, a semi-official Lebanese television quoted an official source as saying the hijacked plane would not be allowed to land. Beirut Radio later broadcast the same information and said the airport, in Beirut's southern suburbs, would close down if the plane attempted to land there. Ten days ago, a 50-year-old unnamed Lebanese man hijacked a Middle East Airlines Boeing 720 on a flight to Beirut from Abu Dhabi in the Gulf. He threatened to blow up the plane unless it headed back to Abu Dhabi, but the pilot continued to Beirut and the hijacker surrendered two hours after the plane landed. After the plane had left for Beirut, Lebanese authorities closed.

Beirut airport to prevent it from landing. Geneva airport sources said the plane was due in the Beirut area between two or three hours after the 19:44 (1744 GMT) takeoff from Geneva. The plane was commandeered over Luxembourg, 22 minutes after it had left Frankfurt. A Frankfurt airport spokesman said all 58 passengers had undergone the routine security checks. It was the second hijacking of an Air France Frankfurt-Paris flight in less than five months. Last March 7, an Algerian student claiming to carry a bag with explosives, took control of a Boeing 737 and also forced it to land in Geneva. He was overpowered by security agents disguised as ground personnel. Police said a pen-knife was the only weapon he carried. Geneva airport officials said they had no passenger list of Tuesday's flight AF 747 and therefore could not say how many men and women were on board. They said however they were assured that the passengers did not include any children. In August last year a Boeing 727 of Air France was hijacked on a flight from Vienna to Paris by four gunmen. After a four-day trip during which the plane landed at Geneva, Sicily, Damascus and finally Tehran, the passengers were released after negotiations with the Iranian authorities.

DFLP expects new moves to heal Syrian-PLO differences

ALGIERS (AP) — Algeria and South Yemen are likely within the next few days to make a new attempt to mediate between Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to seek "normalisation of relations," according to Nayef Hawatmeh, secretary-general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP). Mohammad Herif Messadia, assistant head of Algeria's national Liberation Front Party, has made a number of trips to Damascus this year trying to bring about a reconciliation. Mr. Hawatmeh is currently visiting Algiers where major factions of the PLO opened a "comprehensive national dialogue" Monday night. It seeks to restore unity of the PLO on the basis of an agreement signed in Algiers July 3 between the mainstream commando movement, Fateh and a "democratic alliance" of four other factions, the DFLP, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Palestine Liberation Front, and the Palestinian Communist Party. For the moment, the meetings are being held at the level of assistant secretaries-general of the movements and it appears unlikely that the party leaders will take part unless Syria and the Palestinian movements based in Damascus drop their demands that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat resign before the Palestine National Council can meet. Members of the "democratic alliance" failed to change the position in meetings in Damascus with the "national alliance" of three other PLO factions, Saiga, the PFLP-General Command led by Ahmad Jibril and the Popular Struggle Front, and dissidents in the Fateh movement. Mr. Hawatmeh told the Associated Press Monday night that the alliance had maintained "its rigid position: solve the Arafat problem outside the legal institutions of the PLG."

He said the problem stemmed as much from "bitter experiences with Yasser Arafat — agreements not respected, embarrassing statements," and "continues to" publicly demand his resignation. Mr. Hawatmeh said the DFLP "demands that he be judged" by the legal institutions in and in particular the council. He said he believed Mr. Arafat had made a serious political error in not taking the Algiers agreement into account and in making "provocative statements" during his recent tour of South-East Asia. Mr. Hawatmeh said the "democratic alliance" would "launch an ultimatum to the Central Committee of Fateh, demanding that it impose respect for the agreement on Yasser Arafat." "This point will be the subject of our discussions with the Algerian leadership which sponsored the agreement," he said.

Kashmir parliament approves new premier

NEW DELHI (R) — Jammu and Kashmir's state parliament Tuesday gave its backing to new Chief Minister Ghulam Shah — but only after all 32 opposition members had walked out of the chamber, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported. Mr. Shah took over as chief minister when his brother-in-law, Farouk Abdullah, was ousted from the post four weeks ago. Mr. Abdullah, leader of the opposition National Conference party, was forced to quit when 13 members of his party defected and joined forces with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Congress (I) Party. Mr. Shah is supported by Gandhi's party. Tuesday's vote took place after all 32 opposition members of the 76-seat house walked out, PTI said. All the remaining 43 members present voted for Mr. Shah, it said. PTI said the state parliament Tuesday also passed a non-confidence vote against Speaker Wali Itoo who Monday sacked the 13 defectors under legislation which disqualifies a parliamentarian if he joins another party.

PTI said the state legislature, voted 43 in favour and none against to oust Mr. Itoo as speaker and elected a senior Congress (I) member, Rangil Singh, to preside over the stormy session. Earlier the opposition, protesting against the decision to take a vote on Mr. Itoo, walked out of the house. Mr. Itoo was forcibly removed from his seat, PTI said. Mr. Abdullah has been accused by India's government of shielding pro-Pakistan Muslim fundamentalist groups in Kashmir and Sikh extremists from nearby Punjab state.

China views U.S. delay in nuclear accord as 'insult'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Chinese Ambassador Zhang Wenjin says China is insulted by the U.S. delay in approving a nuclear co-operation agreement tentatively reached during President Ronald Reagan's visit to China. U.S. conduct in the past few months has shown "a mistrust about China which challenges our honesty," he said, and although China wants a nuclear agreement with America, it could exist without one if necessary. "People have lived without nuclear energy for thousands of years," the ambassador said in a Washington, D.C., interview with the Los Angeles Times. The proposed nuclear agreement would clear the way for China to obtain American nuclear technology. It also would enable U.S. corporations to bid on construction projects, worth as much as \$20 billion, for several nuclear reactors that China plans to build. Although the two countries reached tentative agreement on the nuclear pact in April, the Reagan administration has not submitted it to Congress for approval. Instead, it has sought to obtain new assurances that the Chinese are not co-operating in nuclear weapons technology with Pakistan or other nations. In June, Senator Alan Cranston charged that China had helped Pakistan design nuclear weapons.

Mr. Cranston and others have complained that, in reaching the agreement, the administration relied too heavily on a verbal pledge of nuclear non-proliferation made by Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang during a toast at a White House banquet in January. Mr. Zhang said Monday that China does not want to answer questions about whether it is providing technological aid to Pakistan. "We are not interested in giving answers on specific questions, just as your practice is not to give answers on specific sensitive questions on military or intelligence matters, because if you start to give answers, or to answer some questions and not some others, then it will give rise to lots of speculation and new questions," the ambassador said. Mr. Zhang said China already has pledged not to use American nuclear technology to help other countries. He noted the National People's Congress had approved Mr. Ziyang's White House toast last May in Peking. He characterised such an approval as being "equivalent to a law passed by your government on Capitol Hill." Asked if he was saying the U.S. efforts to obtain new assurances from China amounted to an insult, Mr. Zhang replied: "Yes, exactly, yes."

Communications ministry to issue 1,757 public telephones

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Communications Tuesday announced that it will issue 1,757 public telephones. The areas included are Abdali, Nuzha, Hashemi, Shamali, Marka, Ashrafieh, Baidar, Wadi Al Seer, Al Mahatta, Jabal Al Qusour, Naour, the Alia housing estate and Suweileh.

The decision to issue the new telephones was taken at a meeting by the telephone committee chaired by Minister of Communications Mohammad Addoub Al Zaben.

At the meeting, the minister reviewed with the committee steps in the expansion of the existing telephone networks. He said that the Telecommunications Corporation has just transformed a semi-automatic telephone service in Jabal Qusour to a fully automatic system after laying new telephone networks. The area, he said, has 450 telephone lines.

Glasgow, Yarmouk universities agree co-operation accord

AMMAN (Petra) — Glasgow University and Yarmouk University will launch a programme of co-operation in technical training according to an initial agreement concluded by the two sides recently.

The agreement was reached during a visit to Scotland by Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran. Dr. Badran said that the agreement covers an exchange of teachers, professors and technicians and co-operation in studies and research programmes in medicine, engineering, agriculture and veterinary sciences.

Glasgow University also undertakes to offer facilities to post-graduate students sent by Yarmouk University for further training to obtain Masters and Doctorate degrees.

The vice-president of Glasgow University is expected to visit Yarmouk University in November to finalise the agreement before it is put into force, Dr. Badran said.

Society outlines citizens role in supporting police, security

AMMAN (Petra) — Friends of the Police Society Secretary Ahmad Khalaf outlined the important role played by society in supporting policemen and assisting them towards achieving the goal of providing people with security.

In a lecture delivered at the society's headquarters Monday, Dr. Khalaf said that the main objective of the society is to strengthen the relationship between citizens and policemen and to ensure the participation of people in maintaining law and order.

Dr. Khalaf also explained the perceptions and aspirations of the society through the concept of friendship with policemen.

Chinese bank delegation tours industrial, tourist sites, reviews trade links

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Chinese state bank governor, Mr. Bo Ming and his accompanying delegation currently on a four-day visit to Jordan, Tuesday met with members and presidents of the Amman Chambers of Commerce and Industry and discussed economic and trade links between Jordan and China.

They also visited the permanent exhibition of Jordanian industrial products on display at the Amman Chamber of Industry.

The Chinese bank governor, who is here upon an invitation from Arab Bank Chairman Abdul Majid Shoman, visited historical places and industrial landmarks in Jordan.

During their visit, the Chinese delegation paid a visit to Al Wadi Abaydh phosphate mine operated by the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company where they were briefed on the stages of production and manufacturing of phosphates.

They also visited the fertiliser factories of the Jordan Fertiliser Industry Co. in Aqaba and the potash factory of the Arab Potash Co. in Ghor Al Safi.

The delegation expressed their admiration for the advanced industrial level and praised the quality of production of the Jordanian fertilisers.

The delegation visited the archaeological site of Petra and toured the various historical ruins of the ancient Nabatean city. They also toured Aqaba port and development projects in the Jordan Valley during their visit.

A spokesman for the Chinese embassy here told the Jordan Times that the purpose of the Chinese delegation's visit was to strengthen relations and understanding between Jordanian and Chinese banks within the context of the economic and trade co-operation between the two countries.

The delegation earlier met with His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Mr. Shoman also hosted a dinner party in honour of the Chinese delegation attended by a number of cabinet members, Central Bank of Jordan Governor Mohammad Sa'ed Al Nabulsi as well as the chairmen and directors of leading industrial companies.

The visiting delegation is expected to leave Amman Wednesday.



The visiting delegation from the state bank of China headed by Mr. Bo Ming (left at head of table) meet officials from the Amman Chambers of Industry and Commerce Tuesday.

Fouad Mimi to open new art gallery, display of Jordanian works, antiques

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Next week will see the closing of one art gallery and the opening of another. The closing gallery is of course the Alia Art Gallery, the opening is of the new Fouad Mimi Art Gallery which will be located in his own home, already familiar to many, its walls lined with Mimi's own wonderful collection of antiques and Jordanian art.

Mimi, well known both as an artist and for his long and extensive career in broadcasting, has been wanting to open his home up as an art gallery for many years but somehow the time never seemed right.

Now, however, the time is right and after he has sent off the cards announcing the new gallery, along with the maps giving directions on how to find the quiet street off the Ministry of Interior Circle, people

will be welcomed every afternoon from 4pm to 7pm (by appointment) to view the artworks he has for sale.

'High quality'

At present all these artworks, which include oil and watercolour paintings, prints, ceramics and sculptures, are by local artists and all are of a very high quality.

Among the pieces available are new paintings by Ayyad Al Nimer, Ammar Khammash and Alia Ammoura, new ceramic work by Mahmood Taha, sculptures by Samer Tab'a and Kuram Al Nimri and an extremely good early work by Ahmad Nawash.

Gradually Mimi hopes to build up this small collection which is housed in a narrow, but light and airy, verandah apart from his own collection.

"I'm hoping to include the work of the new younger Jordanian artists who are showing a great deal



Minister of Labour Tayseer Abdul Jabbar opens a labour and employment office Tuesday as part of the ministry's plan to improve services to workers (Petra photo)

Labour ministry opens employment offices, extends services to workers

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Labour is increasing the number of employment offices in the country and expanding their services to all sectors in urban and rural regions in line with directives from His Majesty King Hussein. Minister of Labour Tayseer Abdul Jabbar said Tuesday.

He said that employment offices should be as near as possible to the sites where the workers are employed in order to offer them speedy services.

The minister was speaking at a ceremony in Sahab Industrial Estate, south of here, where he opened a new employment office to serve workers employed within the municipalities of Quesmeih, Juweideh, Umm Oussir, Muwaqqar, Jizeh, Queen Alia International Airport and Naour.

At least 12,000 workers at the

Sahab Industrial Estate will benefit from the new services at the new office, he said.

Labour laws

Dr. Abdul Jabbar later opened an employment office in Madaba, 30 kilometres south of here. He said in a speech at the opening ceremony that the office has been granted wide-ranging powers to help Jordanians obtain employment, and also in matters pertaining to the employment of non-Jordanian workers as well as settling labour disputes.

He also said that the office will ensure that workers and employers are abiding by labour laws and Social Security Corporation regulations.

In his speech the minister called on various public and private sectors to co-operate with the employment office which offers services in Madaba district and as far south as Karak Governorate.

14 offices

The Ministry of Labour has five main departments which operate 14 employment offices in Amman, Irbid, Mafraq, Ramtha, Deir Alla, North Shuneh, South Shuneh, Karak, Aqaba, Ma'an,

Zarqa, Salt and now Madaba and Sahab.

Last week Dr. Abdul Jabbar opened an employment office in South Shuneh which will facilitate the work of agricultural labourers employed in the Jordan Valley region. The minister said that the Jordan Valley region employs many non-Jordanian workers in farms and agricultural projects necessitating the labour offices.

Pressure of work

In view of the pressure of work on the employment offices, the Ministry of Labour has decided to extend the deadline for foreign workers to obtain work permits from employment and labour offices until the end of September.

In a statement to Al Ra'i Arabic daily, Dr. Abdul Jabbar said that employment offices in Jordan have, since June 2, issued 40,000 work permits to non-Jordanian workers. This figure reflects the enormous volume of work these offices are trying to handle and calls for more offices and staff to carry out the work.

At the opening ceremonies Tuesday Dr. Abdul Jabbar was accompanied by his under secretary, Dr. Saleh Al Khasawneh, and senior aides.

British film company to record festivities

Jerash festival committee sets programme, activities

AMMAN (J.T.) — A London-based film company will produce a documentary on the activities of the Jerash Festival this summer and a team of British cameramen will arrive in Amman shortly to start preparations for filming the cultural event.



A decision was taken on the project by the festival's executive committee which met at Yarmouk University Liaison Office in Amman Monday under the chairmanship of Dr. Adnan Badran.

The committee approved the project provided that it receives 20 copies of the documentary in exchange for the film company to market the film abroad.

Book display

At the meeting the committee also approved the list of participating troupes from Jordan and other countries and a programme for presenting their performances.

A sub-committee in charge of organising book exhibitions at the Jerash festival site said that more than 10 local publishing houses will take part in the function and will display books by Jordanian authors in addition to foreign publications.

Also, there will be five different exhibitions of paintings by local artists and a committee of judges will make a selection of the best three paintings for awards.

Jordanian artisans and craftsmen will display their different works and university students will exhibit architecture designs.

Local flavour

A total of 10 different local plays will be presented this year and nearly 30 local artists, singers and musicians will take part in the activities.

The committee decided to ban entry into the Jerash area as of Aug. 6 in preparation for the opening of the festival a week later, and decided to meet again on Sunday to discuss tickets, accommodating visitors and troupes in hotels and other related issues. Fifteen different countries are expected to send troupes to the festival which starts on Aug. 16.

The festival committee earlier issued a statement saying that the 1984 Jerash Festival will adhere to

the goals set forth for the Second Festival by Her Majesty Queen Noor and the Higher National Committee.

"It is hoped that it will strengthen bonds of international understanding as well as reinforce existing ones amongst people. It will primarily, however, enhance culture and arts in Jordan while providing an international forum for Jordanian culture and art," the statement said.

As in previous years, this year's festival will cater to all age groups and tastes and will offer a large variety of activities while maintaining a balanced representation of regions and countries.

International contributions in this year's event include: "National Institute Arabic Music Band" — (Morocco), National Folklore Troupe of Iraq, Arabic Music Orchestra (Egypt), Guitar recital by Jihad Azkaoul — (Lebanon), "Le Ballet Du Nord" — (France), Bitburg Folklore Dance Group (West Germany), "Friendship Folklore Troupe" — (Soviet Union), "Harmanli Folklore Troupe" — (Bulgaria), Folklore Troupe (Czechoslovakia), "Sierra Leone National Dance

Troupe," "Up with People" — International Folklore Troupe — (U.S.A.), "Young Strings in Action" — Children's Orchestra (U.S.A.), "Smircus" — "Fairmount Theater of the Deaf" — (U.S.A.), "Chicago Footwarmers Jazz Group" — (U.S.A.), "Disneyland" characters — (U.S.A.), Symphonic Concert "Jerash" — Orchestra of Genova (Italy), "Aida" — Opera by Giuseppe Verdi-Orchestra of the Opera Theater of Genova — (Italy).

The statement also said that activities will be held in the Zeus

Vaults, the Colonnaded streets, the Forum, the South Theater, the Artemis Steps, the Cathedral and other areas around the city.

As in the previous festivals, guests will be able to stroll up and down the colonnaded streets, eat and drink, enjoy exhibitions, listen to music groups, watch performances, and enjoy the spectacle of an ancient city ablaze with lights and the sounds of thousands of people making and enjoying music and art, the statement said.

Iraqi technical team ends oil exploration surveys

AMMAN (Petra) — A 16-member Iraqi technical team has helped Jordanian technicians of the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) to conduct seismicological surveys in the course of oil exploration in the country.

The head of the Iraqi team, Abdul Fattah Abdul Razzaq, said that his team in co-operation with the Jordanian technicians have conducted surveys in three different locations, Al Umari and regions north of Mafraq and Al Qatranah.

The Iraqi team started operations here in May of last year in

accordance with an agreement between the NRA and the Iraqi National Petroleum Corporation.

According to Mr. Abdul Razzaq, the Jordanian technicians, geologists, and seismologists are now able to carry on the work of oil exploration operations by themselves if provided with facilities and proper equipment.

He said that there are 12 technical teams in Iraq who employ up to date methods in oil exploration and that they would be willing to help other Arab states in this field.

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Quiet in the Gulf

THE ATTORNEY of the Iranian Majlis' statement the other day that his country was now following "the diplomatic way" to end the Gulf war should not be taken as a literal translation of Iranian intentions. His comment that "Iran had not given up its goal of overthrowing the Iraqi government, but was seeking diplomatic means to do this" through "negotiated" means, is incompatible with common sense, and consequently does not serve a good purpose.

It is not easy to explain the lull in the "tanker war" in the Gulf. One can only hope that Ayatollah Khomeini has been having a tough time trying to organise a new military campaign against Iraq. Maybe his chances of success in such a campaign are so slim that he decided to let the speaker of his parliament speak about diplomacy as a way of solving Gulf problems, rather than war.

The issue of foreign intervention in the area, which was at its peak only weeks ago, seems to be giving way to new talk of friendly gestures between the Arab countries of the Gulf and Iran.

The Saudi Arabian-led GCC (the Gulf Co-operation Council) in all of this is interesting but equally unclear. Has something happened in the Gulf that made the climate more conducive to peace?

We will have to wait and see for how long the situation will go on improving. If the current trend is not in fact temporary, if there is no guarantee that the Arab side will not lose any ground in the future, however, it is that they will have to resume their self-defence.

Iraq has proved that it can withstand tremendous pressure and hold its own in nearly four years of fighting. Saudi Arabia and its Arab allies in the GCC are determined to see this war come to an end without giving in one inch to the aggressor. This is a good indicator that a healthy balance may now exist in the Gulf to quieten the Iranians.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Not an unexpected move

ISRAEL AND the United States have both rejected a Soviet proposal for an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of the superpowers and all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict. It is quite natural for Israel to reject such a proposal, because an international conference would consider a blueprint for a settlement based on the return of Arab lands occupied since 1967, the creation of an independent Palestinian state and guarantee of peace and security for all states in the region. The conference would hold on to all of Palestine and are determined to deny the Palestinians all rights to their homeland.

The Soviet Union, in its part, is committed as ever to back Israeli policies and to try to impose on the Arabs what the Zionist movement plans for the region. It is clear that the U.S. is opposed to a just and durable peace acceptable to all parties in the conflict, and it is also clear that the Soviet Union has sincere intentions for establishing a comprehensive and lasting peace.

Both the U.S. and Israel persist in completely ruling out any participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in the peace process. The Soviet Union, which strives to establish peace, has previously recognised that a balanced attitude and serious interest in maintaining stability and peace.

Both the U.S. and Israel should realise that force cannot make peace. Diplomacy, military successes, and that such successes would never achieve a lasting peace, but would rather open the door for more wars and more violence.

Al Dukkan: Palestinian unity is the key

A HIGH-LEVEL Palestinian meeting intended to put finishing touches to a co-ordination agreement between major factions of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is due to begin in Algiers within the next few days. The meeting will set a date for convening the Palestinian parliament in exile, the Palestine National Council (PNC).

Perhaps this is the most suitable time not only to decide on the PNC's role but also to discuss the situation resulting from the Israeli elections and the PLO's future policies. The PLO's leaders realise the sufferings of the people under the Israeli occupation and the need for solidarity among various factions so that a joint strategy can be developed against any Israeli eventuality.

The PLO groups are called on to end all differences and internal disputes and should work together towards mobilising the Palestinian people's resources for liberating the usurped territories.

We demand that all PLO groups join hands for achieving the same goals and objectives. They should let bygones be bygones and should establish a united struggle against the Zionist enemy.

The Palestinian people are confronting dangers and, continue to suffer at the hands of the Israeli enemy and continue to be displaced and tortured everywhere. The PNC should take speedy action to unite all groups and devote all efforts for liberating the land and regaining the rights and dignity of the people.

Sawt Al Shaab: Give some, take some

DIRECTIVES BY King Hussein to the cabinet two days ago reaffirm the responsibility of every citizen towards his or her country and also his or her duty to help in the development process so as to achieve further progress for the country as a whole.

Ever since the establishment of the country, all plans have been drawn up for developing, not only the country's natural resources, but also the human resources and the skills of the countrymen. Manpower is the tool for achieving development and a comprehensive development is beneficial for all citizens. The state has been keen on providing the people with educational institutions like schools and universities and other services in various spheres. It is therefore logical for the individuals to benefit from such facilities and refrain from offering something in exchange. It is illogical for a citizen to demand things from the society and from the state without being willing to offer service in return.

The building of the country and the work towards achieving economic and social progress is the responsibility of all individuals, as much as it is the right of everyone to benefit from any progress.

Uncertainty in India's Jammu and Kashmir state

By Chaitanya Kalbag

Reader

SRINAGAR, India — Long rows of empty houseboats bob on Dal Lake and the only movement on the adjoining boulevard comes from stray sheep and cattle.

In the maze of alleys in the old quarter of Srinagar, capital of India's Jammu and Kashmir state, paramilitary troops carry submachine-guns on another day of patrol duty.

Two weeks ago prayers were cancelled at many mosques because of strict security enforced to head off political unrest over the sacking of Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah. Curfews were clamped on the bustling city and life came to a standstill.

"Never since independence have Friday prayers not been held," a senior police officer told Reuters. "People feel a political fight has been turned into an interference with their religion, and they resent it."

Mountainous Kashmir is divided, with Pakistan controlling a third and India the rest. Two of the three Indo-Pakistan wars have been fought over the former princely state.

At partition of the subcontinent in 1947, mainly Muslim Kashmir was expected to go to Pakistan, but the Hindu maharaja wanted to remain independent. Faced with revolt in the west and an invasion by Pathan tribesmen from Pakistan, he signed an instrument of accession to India in return for military help.

Muslims living in the Kashmir Valley constitute about 60 per cent of the state's population of six million. Kashmiri Hindus are concentrated in the Jammu region in the south.

Relations between New Delhi and Srinagar have been strained frequently by the Indian government's fears that many Kashmiris secretly hope for merger with Pakistan and re-union with

those across the ceasefire line in Pakistan's "Azad" (free) Kashmir — referred to here as "Pakistan-occupied Kashmir".

Tension in Jammu and Kashmir was heightened three weeks ago when Mr. Abdullah was ousted after 12 of his supporters in the state assembly deserted his ranks and formed a new government with help from Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Congress (I) Party.

The Indian government has accused Mr. Abdullah of protecting pro-Pakistan Muslim fundamentalist groups in Kashmir and Sikh extremists from neighbouring Punjab state. Mr. Abdullah vehemently denies the charges and says the territory's accession to India is final and irrevocable.

But doubts about Kashmir's loyalty persist among some Indians. The sensitive border state is governed by a special constitutional provision that grants it

considerable autonomy and bars non-Kashmiris from owning property in the scenic region.

Last February, Mrs. Gandhi's son Rajiv, who is a Congress (I) secretary-general, went so far as to predict in a newspaper interview that Pakistan could invade the Indian sector of Kashmir within a year.

Indian newspaper reports in the past two months of outbreaks of firing along the line of control separating Indian and Pakistani troops have added to the uncertainty and tension.

Initially, debate among Kashmiris about Mr. Abdullah's sacking revolves around his effect on Indian politics, particularly with national elections due in the next six months.

But conversation soon turns to the effect on relations between India and Pakistan.

Moulvi Mohammed Farooq, the mirwaiz or Muslim religious leader of the Kashmir Valley, said

that talk of Kashmir's loyalty was used by New Delhi to gain electoral benefits.

"We have said time and again that we are part of India, but by using Pakistan as a bogey Gandhi hopes to impress India's Hindu majority," said the bearded, 39-year-old leader.

He formed the Awami (people's) Action Committee in 1964 to secure self-determination — a demand that echoes Pakistan's insistence on a referendum on the disputed territory's future.

He said he was for friendship between India and Pakistan.

"But if a desire to protect our religion, our culture and our separate identity is regarded as not being patriotism by New Delhi, we are prepared to suffer that charge," he said.

State Governor Jagmohan told Reuters, however, there was little support for links with Islamic Pakistan. "Pro-Pakistan rhetoric has

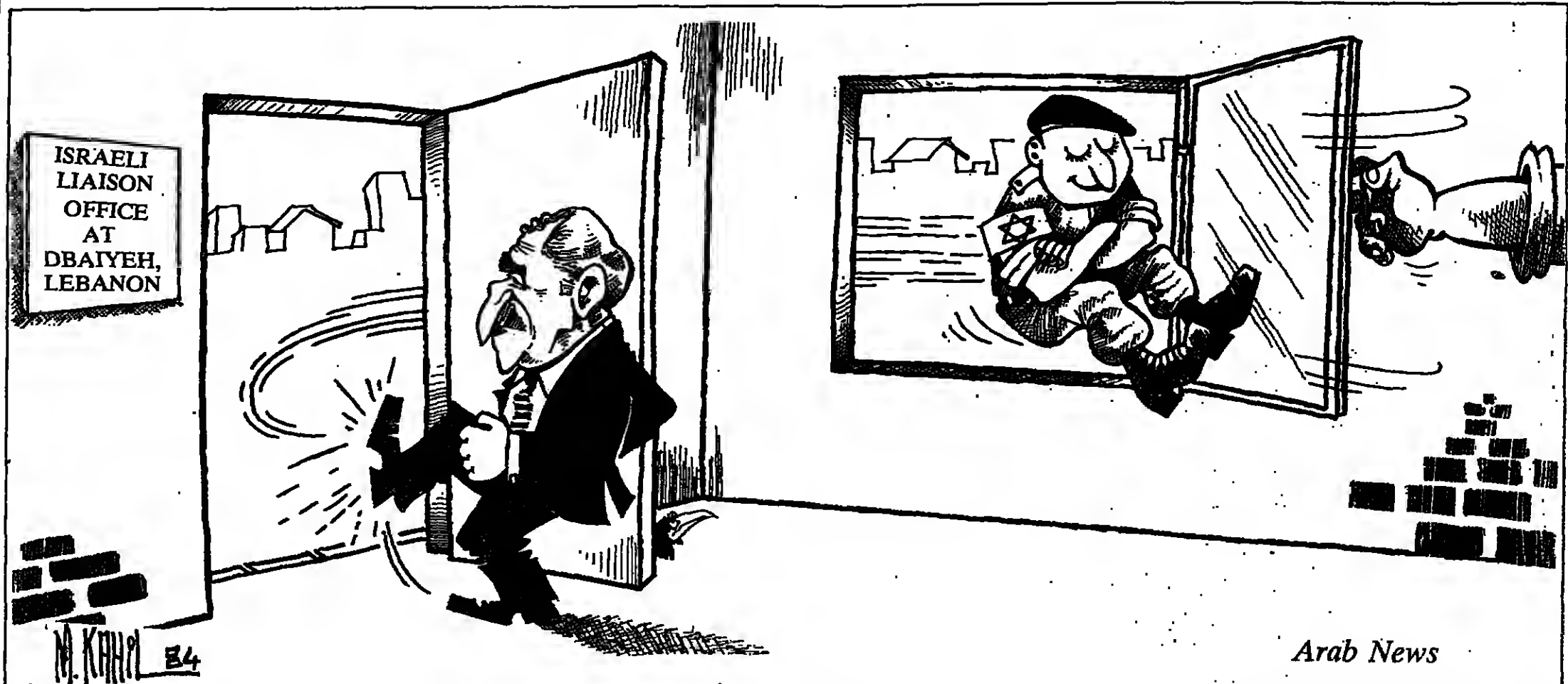
almost died out," he said. "Kashmiris realise they are much better off in India than in a Pakistan under military rule. They earn a lot of money from tourism, their status is protected and they enjoy free speech."

But the political crisis and the Sikh extremist campaign in neighbouring Punjab has badly hit the region's mainly tourist economy.

Hundreds of taxi drivers, tourist guides and houseboat owners wait anxiously for customers. Shops selling wares like the famed Kashmiri carpets have a deserted look.

State Director of Tourism Mubuddin Shah said that in June only 8,497 tourists arrived, compared with 33,931 in June last year. Figures for July showed an even bigger drop, he said.

Tourism officials do not expect the picture to improve until political stability returns, and that seems many months away.



France's Left settles for divorce

After the appointment of Mr. Laurent Fabius as France's new Socialist prime minister, the Communist Party has decided to quit President Mitterrand's government. Paul Bettis looks at the Communist Party's decision and the events surrounding it.

PARIS — Charles Fiterman, the former French Transport Minister and the man expected to take over the French Communist Party leadership from Mr. Georges Marchais next year, stood unshaven in the austere concrete entrance hall of the Communist Party's bunker-like headquarters in Paris to tell a flock of journalists his party was leaving the government.

It was half past eight in the morning and Mr. Fiterman had been up all night for hectic negotiations between Mr. Laurent Fabius, the new Socialist prime minister, and his party's central committee to decide whether the Communists would remain in the new government.

Mr. Georges Marchais, the secretary general of the party, had rushed back from his holidays in Romania. With Mr. Fiterman and Mr. Andre Lajoinie, the president of the Communist Party's parliamentary group, he first met Mr. Fabius the previous evening.

After reporting back to the central committee which drafted what the Communists like to call "a grave and solemn letter" demanding changes in economic policy, the three went back to Mr. Fabius at around 4.00 am.

A few hours later, exhausted but in some respect apparently relieved, Mr. Fiterman broke the

news. So ended a three-year association in government between Socialists and Communists. Relations between the two parties had deteriorated sharply during the past 12 months over the government's economic and industrial policies.

But the Communists hesitated about quitting, despite a particularly tough steel restructuring plan, lay-offs in the mature industrial sectors, declines in workers' purchasing power and growing unemployment.

Even after their disastrous performance in the European elections last June, when they polled 11 per cent, or no more than the extreme right National Front, they were still hesitating. In the end, it took barely 24 hours for the Communists to make up their minds. President Francois Mitterrand, in appointing Mr. Fabius and confirming his economic policies of "rigour", had pushed them to their limit.

Mr. Fiterman, one of the four Communist ministers in the last government acknowledged that the central committee had debated at length the question of staying in. For many party members, the risks of leaving the government are high in that it could now seriously isolate politically

the Communists.

For the majority, however, continued participation in the government was the equivalent of political suicide at a moment when many believe that the party is undergoing an historic decline.

Mr. Pierre Juquin, the party spokesman and member of the political bureau, reading a lengthy statement in the window-less basement of the party headquarters in Place du Colonel Fabien, said the present Socialist policies could only lead to the defeat of the Left in the 1986 parliamentary elections.

He denied that the reason for the Communist withdrawal involved the number of Ministries Mr. Fabius had offered the party. The Communists would again have had four portfolios.

The Communist leaders remained cautious about how the divorce would affect the broader union of the Left in France. Mr. Juquin tried to stress, not altogether convincingly, that the party would continue to support government measures it deemed "just and right".

"We are still there to fight the Right and to erect a barrage to prevent the right returning to power," he said. Mr. Fiterman evaded a question on whether the party meant that the pro-Communist CGT union would now toughen its position.

After the long night that finally ended the first Communist participation in a French government

since 1947 — when, incidentally, they left after a major strike at Renault car plants and in opposition to the government's incomes policy — the party is now expected to try to recover some political momentum in the same way as President Mitterrand is attempting to do.

The next crucial "rendezvous" for the Communists is the party congress next February. With Mr. Fiterman now out of the government, the party is expected to prepare the succession to Mr. Marchais, whose leadership appears to have increasingly become a political liability.

The Communists were on the whole competent and effective ministers. Mr. Fiterman at the Transport Ministry was acknowledged to be a good negotiator and to have mastered his dossiers.

Even Mr. Jack Ralite, who had aroused considerable opposition when he first came to the Health Ministry, is regarded as having subsequently done a good job as Employment Minister.

One big unknown is the extent to which the Communists have succeeded in improving their presence in key parts of the French administration and bureaucracy during their three years in office.

As Mr. Fiterman left to go and have a shave, a party member volunteered his own simple explanation for the split between the Communists and Socialists. "Chacun doit proteger son bifteck" — Financial Times news feature.

Co-ordinated offensive against ETA fighters

By Luis Carlinio

Reader

MADRID — For the first time since they took arms to fight for a Marxist Basque state 16 years ago, ETA guerrillas are waging a defensive battle, pinned down by a combination of international pressure, counter-terror, police action and of ers of pardons for the repentant.

A French government crackdown on separatists living across the Pyrenees and Belgium's recent extradition of two Basque guerrillas have made it clear that Western Europe will no longer be what Madrid calls a launching pad for ETA (Basque homeland and freedom) actions against democratic Spain.

Basque sources with contacts on both sides of the border say death squad attacks and the grant of pardons to those who renounce violence have forced the French-based ETA leadership to go virtually underground while keeping a watchful and threatening eye on comrades likely to jump ship.

"ETA is fighting with its back against the wall," an expert who has closely monitored the group told Reuters.

Barely seven months ago, suspected top ETA leaders could be seen calmly going about their early evening bar crawl in the picturesque villages of France's Atlantic Pyrenees Department.

But the peaceful existence of the 800-strong Basque exile community ended with the emergence last December of a shadowy death squad called the "Anti-Terrorist Liberation Group" (GAL), which has claimed responsibility for the killing of at least eight suspected guerrillas in France.

Almost simultaneously, years of Spanish pressure to end lenient French policy towards the exiles finally began to bear fruit. Since January, about 30 suspected ETA activists have been expelled from France or ordered to move away from the border area.

ETA mobilised its political arm, the Herri Batasuna (popular unity) coalition, in a protest campaign accusing the Socialist government of waging a "dirty war", but failed to stir the violence-weary Basque public into action.

The murder of a Socialist senator by an anarchist offshoot of ETA three days before February's regional Basque elections also backfired. The Basque sources said it only strengthened the French government's resolve to co-operate with Madrid.

The threat of counter-terror in

the French Basque country, blamed for a 20 per cent drop in tourism over the past months, turned the local population against the exiles, they added.

GAL's actions forced ETA to impose elaborate security measures, but a scheme to pardon repentant guerrillas is perceived as an even bigger threat by the hardline leadership.

Earlier this month, the Spanish cabinet approved pardons for five of 43 convicted guerrillas who formally renounced violence and vowed to respect democracy.

Interior Minister Jose Barrionuevo last month gave his French counterpart Gaston Deferre a list of 200 refugees who are eligible to return to a normal life in Spain. The Basque sources said another 200 names were expected to be supplied after the summer.

A special telephone line and postal address have been set up for those who want to apply for pardons.

A similar operation drained more than 100 activists from ETA's ranks over the past three years, and the new moves for case-by-case amnesty have sparked a major debate among the refugees, most of whom have abandoned active militancy.

The sources said ETA had responded by threatening vengeance against repentant activists and instructing its commanders to attack French businesses and vehicles in Spain.

"For a group that killed a prime minister (Luis Carrero Blanco, in 1973), turning to arson against French lorries certainly means going down in the world," one source said.

Basque and central government officials agree that, while the tide has turned against ETA, it will take years to find a solution to the violence, which has caused 26 deaths in 1984.

A handful of ETA's estimated 200 frontline operatives could maintain a high strike capacity, they warn.

The Nationalist Basque government maintains that only increased Basque self-rule will undermine support for ETA, expressed in Herri Batasuna's 10 per cent of the Basque vote.

But Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez is receiving high marks for his handling of the issue. In a recent interview, Civil Guard Chief of Staff Gen. Andres Cassinello said: "I have never seen such determination to go after the terrorists in a co-ordinated fashion, on the diplomatic and police fronts."

الصحف الأردنية

Faith healers, psychic surgeons do booming business in Baguio

By Rajendra Bajpai
Reuters

BAGUIO CITY, Philippines — The Reverend Jose Segundo told his patient to lie down. After making an incision with his bare fingers he pulled out clotted blood and tissue from the man's leg.

Blood gushed from the opened flesh as the Protestant pastor dressed in a three-piece pin-striped suit, mumbled prayers.

"You cannot learn faith healing. It is a divine gift," he said later. "We do not use knowledge. We use power."

The painless operation, witnessed by this correspondent, lasted a minute. Pastor Segundo mopped up the blood with cotton wool and closed the incision. There was no scar to suggest the man had been operated on.

The patient was not in a trance during the operation. He said he had felt some discomfort during it but no real pain.

Pastor Segundo is one of a number of faith healers and psychic surgeons in this northern Philippine hill resort. Once regarded as quacks and tricksters, they have now earned respect.

Business is booming. Hundreds of foreigners and many Filipinos, some suffering from terminal diseases, flock to Baguio City each week for the healing touch of "God's agents."

The healers claim they have sent away in good health people who had been declared incurable by doctors.

Pastor Segundo, 43, runs a tiny clinic on the outskirts of Baguio. He said he has been faith healing since he was 12, and admitted many people regard the practice as fraudulent.

"It is a gift of God," he said. "I say, do not question our method. Question the results."

There are scores of faith healers in the Philippines but only four or five are well-known.

The most famous is Ramon Jun Labo. Other healers say he treated President Ferdinand Marcos in Baguio last December.

Mr. Labo declines to comment on that. But he was picked by the ruling New Society Movement (KBL) to contest the Baguio seat in May's national assembly elections. He lost.

Mr. Labo said he realised he had psychic healing power when he was nine years old.

His wife, a Japanese, was suffering from a potentially fatal disease when he first met her. He treated her successfully and the two decided to get married, he said.

In November, Mr. Labo is holding an international convention on faith healing in Baguio and has invited scientists, psychic researchers and doctors to witness and discuss the phenomena.

In a message to the planned convention printed on invitation forms to the delegates, Mr. Marcos said there was a need for scientific research into the "many alternative forms of healing found in the Philippines."

"Although the Philippine government does not as yet officially recognise the paranormal and spiritual methods of healing as legitimate form of therapy, it is fully aware of the many benefits that have been reported to have resulted from them," the president said.

Scientists and researchers have in the past looked into spiritual healings.

In 1973, a group of seven European scientists, engineers and doctors visited the Philippines to observe the healers and later reported their work did not involve fraud.

Racial discrimination entrenched in Britain

By Joanne Mason
Reuters

LONDON — A quarter of a century after Britain opened its arms to West Indian and Asian immigrants, black Britons say they face racial discrimination which has a powerful effect on their lives.

Black people from former colonies were first welcomed into Britain in the late 1950s, primarily to resolve a labour shortage in the country's booming economy.

Today there are some two million black British people, but community leaders say integration is still a far cry.

One example they give is a car factory plant in East London where about 2,500 people are employed, one third of them black.

Out of 110 foremen, three are black. Among the 300 engineers, the highest non-management grade, there is one black employee.

According to a report published this month by an independent research body, such figures are not exceptional but the results of discrimination.

The report by the Policy Studies Institute, which influences government legislation, found that despite a 1976 law outlawing racial discrimination, black Britons are more likely to be low-paid than whites.

Black people, a term used to include those of Asian origin, are twice as likely to be unemployed than whites while their housing tends to be far worse than the national standard, the report concluded.

It also found that racial violence in Britain had been grossly underestimated, as many attacks go unreported.

Asian families tell how they live in a state of siege in rundown housing estates in London's East End, afraid to venture out because of racial harassment.

Last month an Indian teenager

and his father died in a fire at their home which police believe was started by an incendiary device put through their letter-box.

However, Shaama Sagar-Malik, who works on a government-sponsored project aimed at gearing Britain's health services towards the needs of a multi-racial society, said: "The prejudice that black people face is often not the result of individuals discriminating but institutionalised racism."

"One common response from the administrators I meet is that the sheer number of black people employed in the National Health Service (NHS) proves there is no discrimination," she said.

The chairman of the government's commission for racial equality, Peter Newsam, believes people in powerful positions often turn a blind eye to racism.

"They may suspect that there is discrimination somewhere else, but they seldom notice it in the mirror or in their own office or



Margaret Thatcher

factory," Newsam said.

A survey by the commission earlier this year found that 30 per cent of doctors working in British hospitals were born overseas; but filled only 16.8 per cent of consultancy posts.

One qualified black surgeon without a consultancy, Mark Pon-

nampalam, is engaged in a legal battle with five regional health authorities, contending that he is a victim of policies which keep black doctors out of top medical jobs.

"Ever since the NHS was founded when there was a sudden need for junior doctors — partly so that white consultants could easily milk the lucrative private sector — black doctors have been brutalised," Mr. Ponampalam said.

The outlook is not totally bleak. Hundreds of organisations have adopted equal opportunity policies, although the commission warned that they could be cosmetic changes.

In its annual report, the commission praised various public statements made by the government, opposing all discrimination.

This week Home Secretary Leon Brittan told Asians here he regretted that racial inequality persisted, adding: "Powerful forces are working in remedy the situation."

The commission proposed the government could withhold state contracts from companies not trying to stamp out discrimination.

Oxford Professor Michael Dummett said on television this month that the immigration laws and a lack of discussion about them encouraged racism. He said of the laws: "No serious pretence was ever made that they had any purpose save to exclude black people."

Legislation has virtually stopped net immigration from the Caribbean and Indian subcontinent since 1973, restricting it to dependants of previous immigrants.

Almost half of Britain's black population were born in the country, but many are pessimistic about the terms under which they will ever be accepted.

"Black people and their culture are tolerated like noisy neighbours or other people's badly behaved children," said Mr. Sagar-Malik.

U.S.-Soviet diplomatic thaw sought in icy Bering Sea

By Rodney Pinder
Reuters

WASHINGTON — The icy Bering Sea between Alaska and Siberia is the unlikely setting for President Reagan's latest signal to the Soviet Union on warming relations between the superpowers.

The administration announced last week that as part of an effort to thaw the U.S.-Soviet diplomatic freeze, it was lifting a ban on Soviet fishing in U.S. waters imposed as punishment for Moscow's intervention in Afghanistan in 1979.

"This decision is consistent with the president's policy of promoting a constructive dialogue with the Soviet Union and facilitating non-strategic trade exchanges," the State Department

said.

If the fishing invitation is accepted by Moscow, as expected in Washington, the superpowers will have taken a small step towards better relations, mainly for commercial reasons.

The Soviets want the area's "bottom fish" — mainly sole, pollock and hake — and the Americans want their business.

Soviet fishing in U.S. waters from central California to the 2.2 million square kilometres of the Bering Sea is worth millions of dollars a year to both Soviets and Americans.

U.S. fishermen and the Soviet Ministry of Fisheries formed a joint venture, the Marine Resources Company, in 1976 and it became the biggest buyer of bottom fish.

After President Jimmy Carter banned Soviet boats from U.S. waters in 1980, Soviet factory ships continued to buy the fish from U.S. fishermen. They took in 167,000 tonnes worth \$25 million for processing last year, State Department officials said.

But the ban threatened that business. The officials said Moscow had complained U.S. fishing boats were too small to fish in rough weather and their limited catch from the often stormy Bering Sea was insufficient to keep the venture going.

Talks began and culminated in the U.S. decision to allow Soviet boats to resume fishing and catch 50,000 tonnes of fish a year. That compared with 400,000 tonnes before the ban and was conditional on the Russians buying a

further 50,000 tonnes worth eight million dollars from U.S. fishermen.

"Our approach is governed by our desire to promote the U.S. fishing industry," a State Department official said.

So the Reagan administration in an election year has scored twice with voters. It has appealed to fishermen, and addressed the broader mass of voters who, according to opinion polls, are deeply worried by poor U.S.-Soviet relations.

In a similar move during his 1980 election campaign, Mr. Reagan appealed to American farmers by promising to lift curbs on grain sales in the Soviet Union which Mr. Carter also imposed after the Afghanistan intervention. The ban was lifted in

1981.

Mr. Reagan, the only U.S. president in half a century who has not met his Soviet counterpart, has appeared vulnerable politically over the state of superpower relations.

He has said repeatedly in recent weeks that he is taking real steps to improve the atmosphere despite differences over arms control.

The White House and the Kremlin agreed this month to improve their emergency "Hotline" link, and Washington and Moscow are exchanging messages on the possibility of beginning talks in September to limit space weapons.

The State Department noted that many U.S. economic sanctions on the Soviet Union remain in place.

U.S. flights by the Soviet airline

Aeroflot are suspended as are negotiations on a new U.S.-Soviet maritime accord. Sales of certain oil and gas equipment in the Soviet Union are subject to licences and sales of key equipment to the Big Kama River and Zil truck plants are forbidden.

The State Department refused to say when or if further relaxations might take place.

Asked if Washington sought some form of reciprocal gesture from Moscow after the lifting of the fishing ban, department spokesman Alan Romberg replied tersely that he could not enter into speculation.

Some officials have said the United States would welcome the Soviet Union opening its waters to American fishermen in search of King Crabs.

Clam farms could save the species

Despite their undeserved reputation, giant clams do not threaten divers. But divers do threaten these odd creatures, whose bizarre sex lives and eating habits make them particularly vulnerable. "Clam farms" may offer hope.

By Donatus de Silva

LONDON — Despite the reputation given them by adventure novels, bad films and comic books, giant clams account for the deaths of very few, if any, divers. In fact it is the divers who are rapidly doing away with the giant clams.

The authoritative Hutchinson 20th Century Encyclopedia warns: "If the two valves (of the giant clam) close on the foot of the diver, he may not be able to free himself". True, but he would have to leave his foot between the shells for a very long time before this extremely slow creature could chop down on it.

Giant clams, the world's largest molluscs, live mainly in shallow South-east Asian and Pacific waters, where they are relentlessly harvested for shell and meat and, as a result, are threatened with extinction. Tridacna gigas, over a metre long and weighing around 250 kilos, is the largest of the seven species. Some specimens are thought to be over 100 years old.

They need shallow waters, because much of their food is provided by algae living inside them producing a sugar-like substance during photosynthesis. Thus they need light, and their exposed pos-

ition in shallow, well-lighted waters makes them easy prey for fishermen. (The clams themselves feed not on divers but on tiny plankton filtered through their gills.)

All the species feed local fishermen. Giant clams have been a major part of the peasant fishery in the Pacific Island nation of Tonga, but recently a commercial fishery was established there, taking in most of the clams around Tongatapu Island. Loan schemes for fishermen for the purchase of boats and outboard motors have also increased pressure on the clams.

In Manus Province, Papua New Guinea, the big clams are collected from the reefs and placed in "clam gardens" in quieter water, where they continue to grow. They are harvested as needed, especially when a long spell of bad weather prevents fishing.

Some nations in the region regard the meat of the giant clam as a delicacy. The Japanese use it in the raw fish preparations known as "sushi". Although all the meat is edible, the large white adductor muscles (which open and close the shells) are most in demand. The Taiwanese fish the clams commercially, removing the muscles and leaving the rest on the reefs. Clam meat is reported to fetch

\$82-143 per kilo in Hong Kong. The supply of frozen clam meat is a thriving industry in some parts of the Philippines.

The thin, fluted and brightly coloured shells of some species are snapped up by shell collectors and tourists worldwide. Many are exported to the U.S. state of Florida, where they are one of the most popular items in the tourist shell trade.

There is a bustling shell trade in the Philippines, where they are used as bird-baths, washbasins and to decorate gardens and even graves. There are warehouses stocked with shells of the larger species awaiting export from the Philippine islands of Cebu and Zamboanga.

Luxury clam shell floor tiles are fashionable in Indonesia. To feed this recent craze, hundreds of tonnes of old shells are being dug up in the Thousand Islands near Jakarta.

The clams' sedentary habits and odd sex lives make them vulnerable to over-exploitation. The creatures are hermaphrodites — that is, each has male and female sexual organs. They release sperm and eggs at different times, so that one animal does not mate with itself. Successful breeding requires other clams nearby, and there is probably a population density below which the clams cannot breed.

Reefs from the northern Marianas to the southern tip of the

Great Barrier Reef have been stripped of giant clams. Recent extinctions have been reported from Truk and Cosrae in the eastern Caroline Islands, and from Guam.

Taiwanese fishermen took 156,000 giant clams from Australia's Swain Reefs between 1969 and 1977. Species are also threatened by over-fishing in Japan's southern Ryukyu Islands, and giant clams could disappear from the area within 10 years.

There is some hope. Countries such as Australia and Indonesia are expanding their programmes to protect reef areas, allowing giant clams there to breed undisturbed. All species are now protected on Australia's Great Barrier Reef.

Captive breeding and farming are also possible solutions. Workers at a sea-farming station on Palau, in the Caroline Islands, have been successfully mass-breeding giant clams using relatively simple techniques; and researchers at the International Centre for Living Aquatic Resources Management in Manila are developing a commercial farming operation.

"Clam farming" should be easy because clams are robust, have no major predators and feed on plankton. They exist as larvae for only a matter of days before settling down to grow shells.

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Romanian women gymnasts hit perfect scores again

LOS ANGELES (R) — World Champion gymnast Ecaterina Szabo picked up the Olympic gauntlet thrown down by the United States Monday night as the women's team event swung towards a pulsating finale.

The breathtaking 17-year-old became the eighth woman — and the fourth Romanian — to score a perfect 10 in Olympic competition. She gave a faultless floor display to crown a superb performance by the World Championship team silver medalists.

The Romanians ended the compulsory exercises on 196.15 points, a lead of 0.45 points over the Americans. The host nation had earlier brought the event to life with dazzling displays from Mary Lou Retton and Julienne McNamara. China was third on 194.15.

Szabo, floor gold medalist from last October's Budapest World Championships, danced to perfection in front of Romania's Nadia Comaneci, who eight years ago at the Montreal Games became the first gymnast to receive the maximum mark.

Across the arena, Romanian defender Bela Karolyi, former coach to Comaneci and Szabo but now coaching Retton and McNamara, also looked on showing no emotion.

Szabo was well supported by Lavinia Agache and tiny Laura Cutina.

Agache, joint silver medalist with Szabo on vault and asymmetric in Budapest, collected a string of world class marks, including 9.95 on the floor.

Cutina, another member of the World Championship team, stands only 1.43 metres tall. But

she made a giant-sized contribution to Romania's run for gold, collecting scores of 9.80 on floor and vault.

China climbed into contention when Zhou Ping and Chen Yongya recorded 9.90 each on the vault. Zhou collected a similar result on the floor but Ma Yanhong produced the best display of the night for the Chinese on the asymmetric bars.

Retton and McNamara's consistency provided the platform from which the Americans launched their assault, easing the pressure and allowing their teammates to shine.

Michelle Dusserre, not 16 until December although already in her second year as an international, oozed confidence as she contributed a superb 9.85 on the asymmetric bars.

Glamorous Kathy Johnson, a veteran of the Olympic team denied a chance to compete in Moscow four years ago because of the American boycott, added a near-flawless routine of required moves on the beam worth 9.85.

Her performance on floor and vault expressed a fierce determination to crown a six-year international career with Olympic gold.

But it was Retton and McNamara, both coached in Houston, Texas by Karolyi since his arrival three years ago, who powered the American machine.

While McNamara retains the

more traditional, balletic style of gymnastics, the 16-year-old Retton's raw power puts her in a class of her own as a new breed of gymnast.

She collected 9.90 on the vault — on which she has already received nine perfect scores in her short career. And she put enough charm in her floor routine to melt both polar ice caps.

The frenzied crowd demanded 10. The judges remained cool enough to award her a 9.95.

But that was enough to bring Retton back to the podium to receive a standing ovation.

Comaneci joins athletes commission

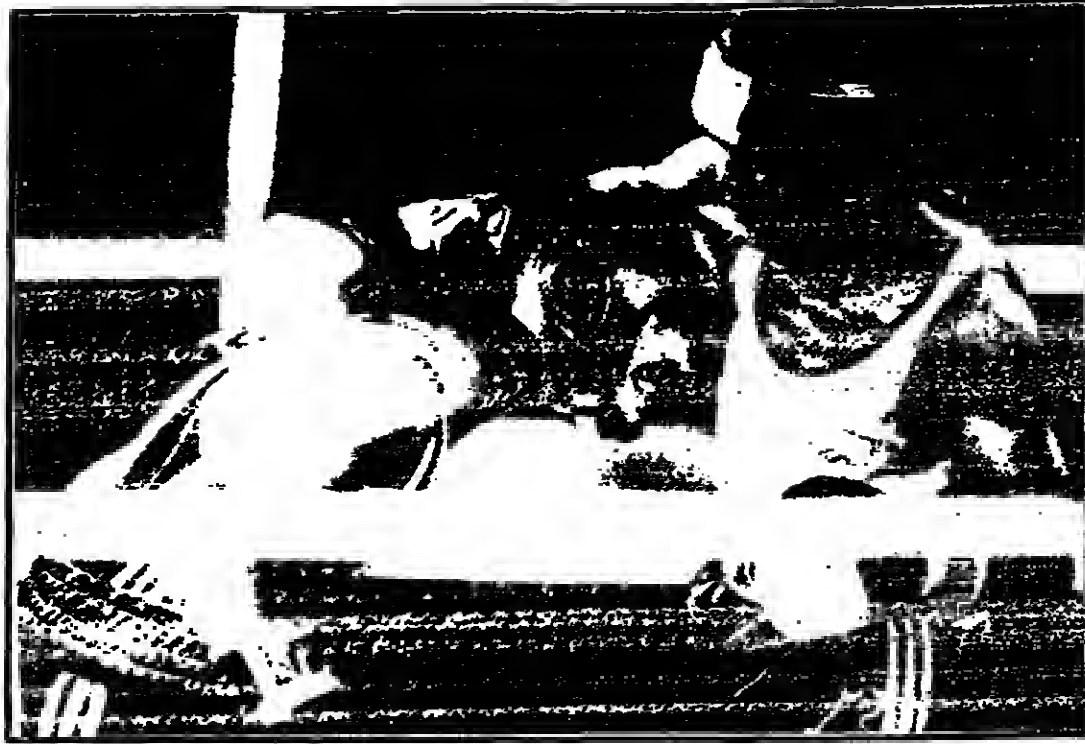
Romanian gymnast Nadia Comaneci, star of the 1976 Montreal Games, has agreed to join the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Athletes Commission, which looks after the interests of competitors.

IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch invited Comaneci to join the commission when he met her and a delegation from the Romanian Olympic Committee here Monday, the IOC said.

Other members of the commission include American hurdler Edwin Moses and Britain's Sebastian Coe. Romania is the only Warsaw Pact country to defy the Soviet-led boycott and send a team to the Los Angeles Games.

Comaneci flew into Los Angeles last week at the invitation of the games organising committee. Her arrival prompted speculation that she might be asked to carry the Olympic flame at last Saturday's opening ceremony.

But that honour went to Americans Gina Hemphill and Rafer Johnson.



Morocco's Mahjoub Mjirih lands a blow to Agapito Gomez of Spain during their light flyweight (48 kg)

boxing bout at the Olympics Monday. The Spaniard won no points (3-2).

Former streetfighter Gonzales sticks to safety of boxing

LOS ANGELES (R) — It took a gunshot wound to convince Paul Gonzales, a member of the U.S. Olympic team, that boxing was safer than teenage gang warfare.

Gonzales, 20, who still lives in the tough east Los Angeles neighbourhood where he grew up, was hit in the head by a shotgun blast as he rode in a car a few years ago.

The scrawny-looking light-flyweight (48 kg) came under less daunting fire Monday as he decisively outpointed Kim Kwang-Sun of South Korea, regarded as his chief rival for the gold medal.

His opening bout victory before a cheering hometown crowd in the Los Angeles memorial sports arena made him a strong favourite to become the first U.S. winner of the division.

"My heart fell when I drew Kim in my first fight," said Gonzales, who has lost only five of 186 fights. "I thought we would meet

in the final."

Another Ugandan William Bagonza, a 24-year-old army private, gained a berth against Gonzales when he stopped Abbas Zeghayer of Iraq in the second round.

Two of the top-ranked middleweights (75 kg) in the world, Shin Joon-Sup of South Korea and Pedro van Raamsdonk of the Netherlands, also recorded their first victories Monday night.

Shin, the World Cup champion, unanimously outpointed Patrick Lihanda of Uganda while van Raamsdonk won a highly unpopular 4-1 decision over Augustus Oga of Kenya.

Oga was the aggressor throughout. He dropped the Dutchman with a left cross in the first round and appeared to land far more effective punches to both the head and body.

"He landed more hard punches, but the man who wins is the man

who lands the most punches, and that was me," said van Raamsdonk.

Another leading medal contender, Manuel Vélazquez Suarez of Venezuela, was upset in the bantamweight (54 kg) division by John Strykowski of Canada, who won a split 3-2 decision.

Light-flyweight John Lyon of Britain registered his country's second straight triumph, as did middleweights Thomas Corr of Ireland and Rick Duff of Canada, all by 5-0 decisions.

Other middleweights who won their first bouts were Damiar Skaro of Yugoslavia, Hugo Antonio Corti of Argentina, Geremias Okorodu of Nigeria, Noe Cruciani of Italy and Paulo Tuvale of Western Samoa.

Where only three of Sunday's 25 bouts ended in knockouts, 10 of Monday's 31 fights did not go the distance.

West Indies scores another convincing test victory

MANCHESTER, England (R) — The West Indies, having already clinched the series with successive victories in the first three tests, Tuesday went through the routine of another convincing win over England in the fourth cricket test here at Old Trafford.

England, 120-5 at the start of play Tuesday, finally collapsed to 156 for nine giving the West Indies a victory by an innings and 64 runs. England's injured batsman Paul Terry, who batted with a broken arm on a sling in the first innings, did not bat.

England must now avoid defeat in the fifth test at the Oval starting August 9 to avoid the greater humiliation of their first series whitewash for 63 years and their first at home.

Captain David Gower was the final unbeaten batsman with 37 not out after the West Indies attack ran through England's tail, following a start delayed 30 minutes by overnight rain.

Spinner Roger Harper and paceman Joel Garner took two wickets each to end England's agony, but star batsman Gordon Greenidge won the man of the match

award for his tremendous second successive double century of the series.

The predictable defeat was a galling blow for Gower who is leading England in a series for the first time. His second innings here was his most authoritative of the series so far and his unbeaten 57 gave him his first half century.

The start of play was delayed for half an hour to allow the outfield extra drying time following heavy overnight rain, but it was no help to England who need a washout to save them.

Paul Allott survived a dropped catch by Desmond Haynes off Harper during the first over, but was soon out for 14, clean bowled by Garner who followed immediately with another winner to remove Nick Cook first ball, caught behind by Jeff Dujon off one that moved away.

Pat Pocock also went for a duck, giving him a pair in his comeback test when he lofted a drive off Harper to Garner at mid-off, and though Gower tried hard to keep the strike and Norman Cowans swung lustily, it was obvious the end was near.

The final wicket fell when Cowans, after hitting Harper for a huge six, was bowled by the off-spinner for 14.

"We could have played better — we might have batted more solidly. The downs in this series have been extraordinary. It is the hardest series I have played in," a disconsolate Gower said after the defeat.

He said he made no excuses for the defeat but believed that the match would have been more even if England had won the toss and batted when the pitch was at its best.

Gower praised veteran off-spinner Pocock for his performance on his return to test cricket, and said Allan Lamb, who became the first batsman to score three centuries in a series against the West Indies in England, had proved again that he was becoming a world class batsman.

West Indies captain Clive Lloyd said the only thing that could stop a 5-0 West Indies whitewash was fatigue.

"We are on course for a whitewash and playing at the Oval next week will seem like a home fixture for us."

"Still, after so much cricket in recent months there will need to be an injection of enthusiasm. I for one am mentally tired," Lloyd said.

Gross in top form in pool

LOS ANGELES (R) — West German sensation Michael Gross came within 0.04 seconds of achieving a remarkable feat in one of the great swimming clashes in Olympic history.

Seventy-five minutes after winning his second gold medal and his second world record, Gross started again aiming to make up a deficit of 1.5 seconds and so grab a third gold.

He failed. But his effort against the United States in the men's 4 x 200 metres freestyle relay will be remembered as one of the finest swims at the Olympic Games.

The Americans won the relay in seven minutes 15.69 seconds, smashing the record they set in the heats by 3.18 seconds. The West Germans finished 0.04 seconds behind, thanks to the amazing final leg by Gross. His time of 1:46.89 is the fastest ever relay split for 200 metres.

"He had caught me up after only 50 metres. I could hardly believe it. I just put my head down and started kicking," said Bruce Hayes who swam the final leg for the United States.

There were two other world swimming records Monday, bringing to six the total set in only five men's events so far at the games.

Gross swam probably the fastest men's 100 metres butterfly ever contested. He recorded 53.08 seconds to cut 0.15 seconds off the record set by American Pablo Morales.

Morales, the son of Cuban immigrants, took the silver with 53.23, also inside his old world mark. "I swam my best time and got beat by a great athlete," Morales said.

The race saw seven out of the eight competitors create national records with career-best times.

The next world record came in the men's 400 individual medley when Canadian Alex Baumann reduced his own world mark by 0.12 seconds in recording four minutes 17.41 seconds. Ricardo Prado of Brazil finished second and the bronze went to Australian Robert Woodhouse.

"It's been a long grind for me and even longer one for Canada," the Czech-born Baumann said. Canada had not won an Olympic swimming gold for 72 years.

Canada did not have to wait so long for their second. It came in the next final when Anne Ottenbrite won the women's 200 metres breaststroke.

A fast finishing Sue Rapp of the United States was second and the bronze went to Belgian newcomer Ingrid Lempereur who improved

her career-best time by six seconds and at only 15 is an outstanding European prospect.

Japan's Hiroko Nagasaki, the favourite, set the pace, but tired over the final 50 metres and finished fourth.

There was some doubt as to whether Ottenbrite could compete in the Olympics. She missed her national trials after damaging a knee in a fall from a pair of high-heeled shoes.

"My knee did not bother me at all, it felt fine tonight," she said. The remaining final brought the United States its fifth swimming gold when Mary Wayne defeated longtime rival Cynthia Woodhead in the women's 200 metres freestyle.

Wayne produced a career-best time of one minute 59.23 seconds to edge out Woodhead, the former world record holder, by 0.25 seconds.

Annemarie Verstaappen of Holland finished third, adding to the bronze she collected in the 100 metres Monday.

While American, Canada and West Germany have dominated the golds decided after two days of competition, there has been a fairly wide distribution of the minor medals.

Australia leads the tally with one silver and three bronze medals, while Britain collected a bronze in the men's 4 x 200 metres relay.

Stylish Brazil sounds warning in Olympic soccer

LOS ANGELES (R) — Stylish Brazil sounded a warning to the rest of the Olympic soccer finalists Monday with an impressive 3-1 win over newcomers Saudi Arabia in their opening match.

The Brazilians played with all the panache of their World Cup side. But they must have been surprised to see the Saudis match them many times with attractive Brazilian-style play.

Giltner opened the scoring for the South Americans in the 13th minute and Silvinho made it 2-0 in the 51st minute.

Dunga's crashing 59th minute goal, to make it 3-0, brought back memories of Brazil's great winger of the sixties, Garrincha. He tore in from the right and blasted a right-foot shot which almost carried Saudi goalkeeper Mohammed Al-Husseini into the back of the net.

But the side from the bugged Gulf Kingdom were not demoralised. Lanky winger Muhaisin Al-Dosari constantly troubled the Brazilians, hitting the bar in the first half.

The Saudis' tenacity was rewarded when striker Majed Abdullah, known in the Arab World as 'the Desert Pele' because of his resemblance to the great Brazilian, netted a penalty after being brought down in a fine solo run at goal.

West Germany, among the Brazilians' leading rivals for the Olympic title, opened their campaign with a 2-0 win over Morocco in Group C.

Goals by Uwe Rahn a minute before halftime and a 53rd minute penalty from Andreas Brehme set

the seal on a competent performance.

Morocco's Mostafa Elbiyaz was sent off in the last minute, the sixth player ejected since the tournament began Monday. He had been cautioned in the seventh minute.

Yugoslav defender Marko Elsner was ordered off earlier in the day.

After receiving a caution for an apparent late tackle, he was shown the red card for a similar offence eight minutes from the end of Yugoslavia's 2-1 Group B win over African hopes Cameroun.

Three Egyptians and an Italian were ordered off in a bruising Group D match in Pasadena Sunday — incidents which prompted suspensions and an appeal for fair play to all 16 competing teams by the International Football Federation (FIFA).

Roger Milla chested down a Louis Mfede pass and fired Cameroun ahead. But Yugoslavia finally beat goalkeeper Antoine Bell five minutes before halftime when Jovica Nikolic was on target from 20 metres.

Borislav Cvetkovic broke the deadlock by scoring from 10 metres midway through the second half.

Canada and Iraq drew 1-1 in their Group A tie in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

North American Soccer League veteran Gerry Gray scored for Canada in the 76th minute after a perfectly-weighted cross from Mike Sweeney.

Hussain Saeed Mubammed blasted home the equaliser from 15 metres seven minutes from time.

China hailed as new force in weightlifting

LOS ANGELES (R) — China has hailed Tuesday as a new force emerging in world weightlifting to challenge the overwhelming domination of the Soviet Union and Bulgaria.

Re-appearing in the Olympics after a 32-year absence, the Chinese filled the first two places in the only two classes decided so far and introduced some exciting young talent.

A senior Peking government official described the crop of medals — the first ever won by China in weightlifting — as a dramatic breakthrough.

Former Vice-Minister for Sport Yong Kotung, after watching 25-year-old Wu Shunde win the bantamweight (56 kg) gold, predicted a bright future for Chinese weightlifters.

International experts went further and said China within a few years could rival the best Soviet and Bulgarian lifters, especially at the lighter weights.

The Soviet Union and Bulgaria took nine of the 10 world titles last year and the other went to ally East Germany. But this year's boycott of the Olympics kept all three nations away from Los Angeles.

Canadian Lionel St. Jean, one

of the jury, said China "look like they've some potential champions coming through."

Another official, Rene Deville of Luxembourg, was also impressed with the Chinese and said they could develop into a major threat to the East Europeans. "They have the right physique and the right disciplined frame of mind," he said.

The Chinese, on their Olympic-winning form, would probably have beaten the top East Europeans had they come.

Zeng Guoqiang, a 19-year-old student, won the flyweight (52 kg) title lifting 235 kg, way below Bulgarian Neno Tersisik's winning total of 260 kg at the last World Championships. But it was his international debut and he seemed sure to improve.

Wu followed up taking the bantamweight (56 kg) gold Monday night raising 267.5 kg, again well under the 292.5 kg of winner Oksen Mirsojan of the Soviet Union at the 1983 world title.

But runner-up Lai Running, 21, gave notice of bigger things equalling the Olympic record of 125 kg for the snatch and then cleaning and jerking a personal best of 140 kg.

Sarajevo, Los Angeles mayors appeal for peace

LOS ANGELES (R) — The mayors of Sarajevo and Los Angeles, the two 1984 Olympic cities, Monday appealed jointly to world leaders to follow the Ancient Greek example and declare a truce for the period of the games.

"At this critical juncture of human affairs, such a breathing spell is badly needed to restore tranquility to the world," Mayors Ugljesa Uzelac and Tom Bradley said in a declaration issued at a joint news conference.

The statement noted that the Ancient Greeks called a truce between warring states for several months before and after the games.

Responding to questions, Bradley rejected charges by the Soviet press that the United States had conspired to have the Soviet Union boycott the games so that the Americans could win more medals.

"If there was a conspiracy, it was to bring them, not to exclude them," Bradley said.

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المسرح

Strike hits faith in Britain's economic recovery, CBI says

LONDON (R) — Britain's 20-week-old miners' strike has hit industry's faith in the future of economic recovery, the employers' association, the CBI, said Tuesday.

In its quarterly industrial trends survey, the CBI (Confederation of British Industry) said that for the first time in 18 months there was a decline in optimism among firms questioned about the economic outlook.

The CBI blamed the miners' strike, higher interest rates and a dock strike, now ended, for the loss of confidence.

"The decline in optimism is hardly surprising in the circumstances," the survey said.

The survey pointed to continuing economic recovery but at a slower rate than before.

Leaders of the striking National

Union of Mineworkers (NUM) in South Wales were Tuesday preparing for possible court action to seize their branch funds after they were fined Monday as a result of mass picketing at a local steelworks.

The officials have said they will not co-operate with courts seeking to impose anti-trade union laws but they have not said directly they will ignore the £50,000 (\$66,000) fine.

If the union branch fails to pay the fine by Wednesday, the high court can appoint commissioners to sequester some or all of its funds.

Monday's court hearing arose out of mass picketing by South Wales miners who had sought to prevent private trucking firms transferring coke between local steel plants.

The court ruled that the strikers had defied an order not to interfere with trucks owned by the two firms.

Union officials say the South Wales branch has transferred funds either abroad or to private accounts in the hope they will be out of the reach of the commissioners.

NUM National President Arthur Scargill Tuesday defended the right of miners or other trade unionists to break the law. "I support those who oppose and defy and refuse to accept this anti-trade union legislation."

Answering questions on a radio phone-in, he noted that Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was a member of parliament only thanks to women who broke the law in order to win the right to vote.

Yamani says OPEC must keep prices

CARDIFF, Wales (R) — Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani said Monday it was vital that OPEC maintain current oil prices until October or November.

By then the present oil market crisis should be over, he said.

OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) will keep the price as it is," Sheikh

Yamani told the Welsh Centre for International Affairs.

He added: "The key to this situation is in the hands of this government of the United Kingdom. If the price of North Sea oil stays at the same level for the coming quarter, I have no worries whatsoever."

But Sheikh Yamani said that if

the British National Oil Corporation decided to make a small cut in the price of North Sea crude "then I can see a serious situation."

Sheikh Yamani said the present weakness of the oil market was based on factors other than those which caused OPEC to reduce the price of its Saudi Arab light market crude by \$5 to \$29 a barrel in March 1983.

At that time major consumers had huge reserves and the level of consumption was lower than it is now, he said. By contrast, consuming countries now had higher economic growth rates.

With the co-operation of non-OPEC producers, "we can go through the third quarter of this year and then the crisis will be over," he added.

Sheikh Yamani said non-OPEC producers would be looking to Britain for a lead. The outcome of the current situation was "difficult to foresee till we find out what is the decision of this (British) government with regard to the price of oil." He said Mexico had been co-operating with OPEC, and OPEC members themselves were doing what they could to maintain their 17.5 million bbl production ceiling.

However, OPEC did not see the same co-operation from Britain, where production had risen to 2.5 million bbl and above from 2.2 million bbl.

Meanwhile, Libyan Oil Minister and OPEC President Kamal Hassan Al Maqhour will visit Nigeria next week to discuss the glutted world oil market, well-informed sources said Monday.

Mr. Maqhour has no appointment with Nigerian head of state Major-General Mohammed Buhari on Monday in the first of a series of high-level contacts agreed by OPEC, they said.

News of the visit comes as prices on world spot oil markets are at 28-month lows, although Egypt decided Monday to hold its crude oil prices unchanged through August at \$28 for a barrel of its benchmark Suez blend.

Japan aims for lowest budget growth in 23 years

TOKYO (R) — The Japanese cabinet Tuesday proposed holding down growth in next year's national budget to less than one per cent, the tightest restriction since 1961.

Defence and overseas aid were the only departments permitted substantial increases.

Ministers approved a plan submitted by the finance ministry under which general expenditure for the next financial year beginning April 1985 should be no higher than 0.86 per cent.

Giving details of the plan, Finance Minister Noboru Takeshita told reporters most government departments had been told to chop spending by up to 10 per cent.

But the defence budget would be allowed a seven per cent increase over the current year's allocation of 2,934 billion yen (\$12 billion), Mr. Takeshita said.

This reflects long-standing pressure from Washington for a strengthening of Japan's armed forces to shoulder a greater share of defence burdens.

An even higher growth rate was allowed for economic aid under the heading of Official Development Assistance (ODA). The ODA budget would be permitted to rise by 11.4 per cent to \$88 billion yen (\$2.4 billion).

Even this would not enable Japan to fulfil its 1981 pledge to double ODA funds within five years.

The budget hold-down is part of a drive to reduce government debts which have piled up to more than 110,000 billion yen (\$450 billion) over the past 10 years.

The cabinet decision cleared the way for a long period of inter-departmental wrangling over where the cuts should fall most heavily.

The argument also will be waged inside the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) which in November is due to vote on whether

Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone should remain as leader of the party and the nation.

To line up the party factions necessary to endure his reelection Mr. Nakasone may have some difficult decisions to make on where sacrifices should be made.

Meanwhile Japan faces another round of bickering arguments with its major trading partners after the announcement Tuesday of a record monthly trade surplus for June, diplomatic sources said.

Mr. Nakasone urged Japanese to buy more foreign products in a bid to try to stave off overseas complaints about the deluge of Japanese video tape recorders, cars, microchips and steel.

The finance ministry said June's trade surplus, measured on a payments basis, was \$4.85 billion with exports at \$14.65 billion and imports at \$9.80 billion. The previous record monthly surplus was \$4.23 billion in March.

Taking into account invisible earnings like shipping and ins-

urance, Japan's current account surplus rose from \$3.52 billion in April to a record \$4.38 billion in June.

One Western diplomat said: "The seeds of further conflict are being sown."

Both Western Europe and the United States have criticised Japan's runaway exporting successes, saying its sales are damaging their industries and threatening jobs.

Japan is holding trade talks with the United States in Tokyo in September and with the European Community in Brussels in October.

Japan attributes much of its ira-

ding success to the low prices paid by Japanese companies for oil and other industrial raw materials, while the strong dollar has made Japanese goods unusually attractive to Americans.

Mr. Toshio Komoto, director general of Japan's economic planning agency, has told the country to be ready for a new wave of trade complaints especially from the United States where the issue could feature in the presidential election.

Diplomats said anger would rise if Japan's trade surplus rose towards the \$40 billion mark in 1984 compared with last year's \$31.45 billion.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, AUG. 1, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The early morning and late evening both find you with poor judgment and ricocheting between being too demanding at one moment and too unavailable the next.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You get excellent ideas that will help you to come to a far better understanding with an associate who is important to you.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Study how to get your work done more precisely and carefully and improve your image. Spend the evening quietly at home.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Use that special talent you possess to get a partner to be more cooperative in business matters and make this a very productive day.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Concentrate on home and family so you can get everything working beautifully there in the future and have great harmony.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Use that smile more and be more cooperative with everyone including co-workers and you get fine results at this time.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get clear in your mind what it is you most want and then take the right steps in such direction. Be happy tonight.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Know what your personal aims are and which friends can be of help to you in gaining them. Be with pals during spare time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Study into new ways to gain the attention of those in public life and you can better yourself appreciably.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You can gain your fondest aims through the auspices of good friends at this time. Cultivate them nicely.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Consult an expert who can help you to merchandise your wares much better and gain the goodwill of the public in general.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A new set of conditions will help you to impress those who are important in your life. Be happy.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Expend some effort to make your home more charming and functional and you can add to its value. Feel satisfied in the evening.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will readily understand what the desires and needs of those around are and will try to help them gain their aims and be most cooperative. A good, hard worker in this chart. A lover of sports here.

Paris lifts controls on use of credit cards overseas

PARIS (R) — France is to lift restrictions on the use of credit cards abroad that were introduced last year as part of the government's austerity programme, new Finance Minister Pierre Berégovoy said Tuesday.

He told a television interviewer that from Wednesday French travellers will be able to use credit cards abroad without restriction.

The restrictions, which never applied to business travellers, were part of government controls imposed in March last year on the amount of currency tourists could take abroad.

Protests from travel agents and the travelling public led to a relaxation of the currency rules at the end of the year, but the credit card ban stayed in force.

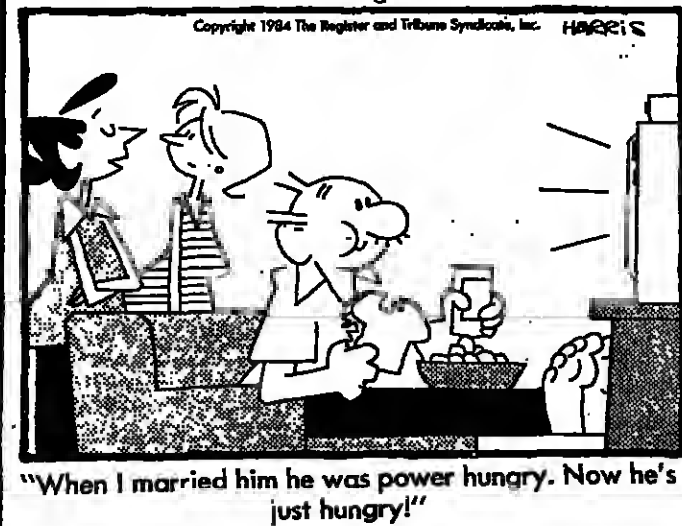
Even after the latest relaxation, restrictions remain on French citizens holding foreign bank accounts and on transferring money in and out of the country.

Since the austerity package was introduced, the government has made progress in curbing inflation and the trade deficit, but Mr. Berégovoy gave no hint of any further relaxation of exchange controls.

Argentina repays loans

BUENOS AIRES (AP) — Argentina has repaid a \$300 million emergency loan from four other Latin American nations and is moving forward in negotiations with the International Monetary Fund, the president of the central bank was quoted as saying Monday. The newspaper La Nacion quoted Mr. Enrique Garcia Vasquez as saying that Argentina used its hard currency reserves to repay \$100 million each to Venezuela and Mexico and \$50 million to Brazil. Last week it was disclosed that a \$50 million repayment also was made to Colombia. Tuesday was the deadline for repaying the loans, which were part of a \$500 million emergency package that enabled the country to meet a March 31 deadline for paying overdue interest on its \$43.6 billion foreign debt.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answer here: OUT OF (Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: DICED TYPED EQUATE PARITY
Answer: What's the problem with short skirts?—THE "UPCREEP"

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff

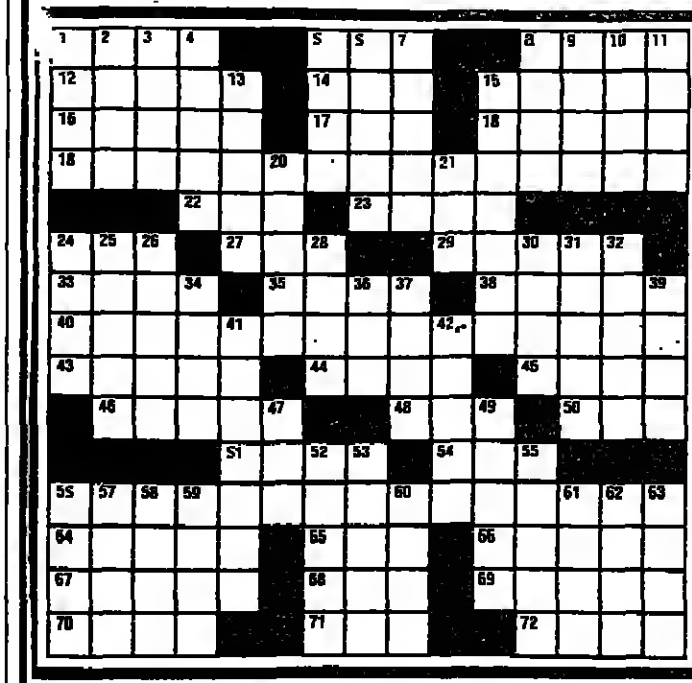


Andy Capp



THE Daily Crossword By CF Murray

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Foundation	1 Good's superlative
5 Spoiled	2 Choir member
8 Mrs. Chaplin	3 Appear
12 Pupil in	4 Get away from
Paris	5 Lie on the beach
14 "Exodus" hero	6 About a field
15 More seasoned	7 Moon goddess
16 Place	8 Wide jar
17 Yellow or black	9 River to the Baltic
18 Skirt	10 Approach
19 Average	11 Bohemian
22 Ordinal number	13 Head or Wharton
23 Put on board	15 Hamlet's girl
	20 Hot pepper
	21 Letters for a filler
	24 Brink
	25 Embellish
	26 Part
	28 Highland caps
	30 Concerning
	31 Valletta's country
	32 Malice
	34 Adams of song
	36 Favorita
	37 Sing like Ella
	38 Afternoon affairs
	41 High rise patio
	42 Scavenger
	47 Energy source
	49 Napped
	52 Official order
	53 Pile of small rocks
	55 Romantic poet
	56 Desire
	57 Dot of land
	58 Animal abode
	59 Titled lady
	60 Lively dance
	61 Stars
	62 Employ
	63 Longings



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Venezuelan troops kill 2 hijackers, free hostages

AMSTERDAM (R) — A Venezuelan anti-terrorist unit Tuesday free all 79 hostages on a hijacked plane at Curacao Airport and killed the two hijackers, a Curacao Police spokesman said.

The freed passengers and crew were taken to hospital on the Dutch Caribbean island but none had been hurt when the unit stormed the plane, according to the spokesman, contacted by telephone from Amsterdam.

The Venezuelan DC-9 was seized on Sunday by the two hijackers, a Haitian and a Dominican, shortly after it took off from Curacao. The pair demanded a ransom of up to \$10 million, weapons and a helicopter.

The anti-terrorist unit entered the plane from the rear while the hijackers were distracted at the front where one of them was talking by radio to his wife.

Five commandos dashed through the plane and shot the hijackers dead before the pair had time to open fire, airport officials said. The passengers were not cleared from the plane, many of them running towards the nearby seashore as they left the jet.

A U.S. anti-terrorist group with listening apparatus had earlier flown in to the Dutch Antilles to

and to help operations against the hijackers.

But only a Venezuelan unit apparently took part in the final action. Before storming the plane, they put out its lights by switching off an outside generator, leaving the airport mainly in darkness.

The police spokesman said the hijackers seemingly did not have any political motive, although this was still being investigated.

On Monday the hijackers freed six passengers, five of them in exchange for water and one, an Argentine, because he had promised them a \$1 million ransom. His girlfriend was kept on the plane under threat of death while he was freed to seek the money.

The girlfriend later wounded herself in a dispute with the hijackers, although details were not clear, and another woman had a miscarriage, airport officials said. Their condition was not immediately known. No other injuries were reported.

At one stage during drawn-out overnight negotiations with the

hijackers, the DC-9 began moving but authorities blocked the runway with fire engines to prevent the jet taking off.

The negotiating team of Venezuelan and Dutch Antilles officials was led by Don Martina, acting prime minister of the Antilles. Earlier, Venezuelan Television said the pilot of the Aeropostal plane said the hijackers had placed a bomb and filled the aisle with petrol contained in plastic bags.

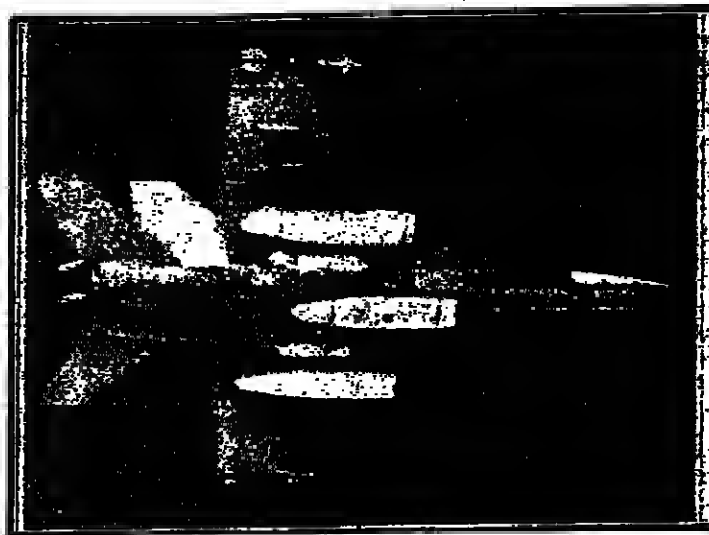
Officials said one of the hijackers was a Haitian political exile, whom police named as Dominique Hilerant. He was aided by a Dominican identified as Feliz Segundo, they said.

"Each one is crazier than the other," Captain Arturo Reina was reported as saying.

The 82 passengers who left Curacao Monday were 52 Dutch Antilles nationals, 13 Venezuelans, four U.S. citizens, four Portuguese, four Argentines, three Lebanese, one Haitian and one Dominican.

The six released were five Curacao nationals and the Argentine who bargained for his release.

The Dutch Antilles is part of the kingdom of the Netherlands, which is responsible for defence, but is internally self-governing.



A bomber variant of F-18 called the A-18 with missiles, bombs and extra fuel tanks.

U.S. Navy stops taking delivery of troubled F-18

WASHINGTON (AP) — Navy Secretary John Lehman has stopped acceptance of the sophisticated new F-18 fighter planes from McDonnell Douglas Corp. until it fixes a design flaw that has caused cracks in a key tail fitting, the navy said Monday.

The navy also said Mr. Lehman has formally notified the St. Louis, Missouri-based aerospace company that he expects McDonnell Douglas to bear the cost of making the corrections, which a project officer last week estimated would amount to thousands of dollars a plane.

Mr. Lehman's move, in a letter sent to McDonnell Douglas last Friday and disclosed by the navy Monday evening, followed imposition of flight restrictions on the planes, the navy's newest and most versatile fighters.

In St. Louis, Ray Deffry, the McDonnell Douglas director of

news operations, said the company "announced earlier that we've developed a kit to fix that problem."

"We're planning on delivering the kits to the navy next month so they can retrofit the planes," Mr. Deffry said.

The F-18 programme, including a bomber variant called the A-18, is this country's most expensive. Under current plans, the navy intends to buy 1,366 F-18s at a projected price of just under \$40 billion.

The navy said that 11 of 102 twin-tailed aircraft inspected so far have been grounded and that it expects about half the 149 planes already in the fleet will be found to have cracks in a tail attachment fitting.

The cracks were detected recently at the navy's Patuxent River, Maryland, test centre.

Sally Ride prepares for second flight

SPACE CENTRE, Houston (AP) — Sally Ride, America's first woman in space, says she will be happy when another U.S. woman astronaut goes on a space flight so the spotlight can be shared.

"I'll be glad when there are two of us," said Ms. Ride, referring to the August space shuttle mission scheduled for astronaut Judith Resnik. "She can take some of the publicity."

Since she made her first flight in June 1983, Ms. Ride, 33, has taken extensive publicity tours, been interviewed hundreds of times and received many awards.

Now there is another important flight for Ms. Ride coming up in a matter of weeks. In October, Ms. Ride takes her second orbital voyage.

Her husband Steven Hawley, Ms. Resnik and four other astronauts were scheduled to have flown earlier, but two launch attempts failed, one of them just four seconds before liftoff. The flight



Sally Ride

tentatively is set for the last week in August.

While she will be following her husband's flight, Ms. Ride will be getting ready for her second mission.

She is part of a seven-member crew scheduled for launch aboard the Challenger in October for eight days in orbit. Another woman astronaut, Kathy Sullivan, will be on board and will make the first spacewalk by a U.S. woman.

The first woman spacewalker was Soviet Cosmonaut Svetlana Savitskaya, who walked aloft last week.

Talks on U.S. defence bill virtually collapse

WASHINGTON (AP) — Attempts to fashion a compromise U.S. Defence budget virtually collapsed Monday as Senate negotiators balked at House of Representatives demands that money for the MX missile and anti-satellite weapons be tied firmly to arms control efforts of President Ronald Reagan's administration, sources said.

The impasse produced an indefinite suspension of the meetings of the House-Senate Conference Committee assigned to iron out differences on the record Pentagon authorisation bill for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1 — nearly \$300 billion.

With time running out on Congress, the deadline heightened prospects that the regular appropriations process will be scuttled for the Pentagon, with money provided through a so-called continuing resolution, or fixing general spending levels as a percentage of current amounts.

That could imperil dozens of proposed new programmes, while giving the administration of the Republican president a freer hand to continue existing programmes.

House negotiators planned to meet with Democratic speaker Thomas O'Neill Jr. and other leaders before formulating their next move. But several confided that they believed chances for a compromise with the Republican-controlled Senate had become very dim.

That sentiment was echoed by assistant majority leader Ted Stevens in the Senate. With the sta-

ndstill over the authorisation measure, he said, there was little point in proceeding on the companion appropriations bill, the measure that actually hands out the money.

The House passed an overall \$292 billion Defence budget in May — the Senate approved a \$299 billion version on June 21.

Secret negotiations in the conference committee had produced little movement for weeks, with Senate Armed Services Chairman John Tower fighting for the entire \$299 billion package favoured by Mr. Reagan. Finally, Sen. Tower offered a "compromise" total of \$297 billion.

House members of the panel agreed, on condition that the Senate bend on four key issues: The MX, anti-satellite weapons, sea-launched cruise missiles and troops in Central America.

According to sources who spoke only on condition that they not be identified, the Senate group did agree to some arms-control language on the three weapons systems, and also to a variation of the House prohibition against using troops in Central America except to save American lives.

But the stumbling point, according to these sources, was over how much power to leave Congress for a further decision next year on the future of the MX.

The House bill would prohibit any spending for MX products until next April, when, after reviewing progress of U.S.-Soviet arms talks, Congress could release funds for just 15 missiles by passing a simple resolution.

Pravda: U.S. will not have cruise superiority

MOSCOW (R) — The official Soviet Daily Pravda said Tuesday long-range cruise missiles, developed as a counter to the United States' "tomahawk" weapon, were already under testing in the Soviet Union.

A Pravda editorial said the U.S. had been warned that it could not be permitted to outstrip the Soviet Union in this new field of weapons.

Soviet leaders have repeatedly said that their technology is capable of matching anything the West can produce and have acknowledged that work is being carried out on the development of nuclear-capable cruise missiles.

"They wanted to outstrip the Soviet Union at one time in ballistic missiles — it didn't work. They staked on pre-eminence in multiple, independently-targeted warheads — again it didn't work."

It won't work this time either," it said.

Pentagon analysts have said Moscow has five types of nuclear-capable long-range cruise missiles under development, two of them much larger and with greater range than the U.S. weapon.

Pravda said the Soviet Union had opposed development of cruise as a new and destabilising factor in the arms race.

But the United States had wrecked arms control talks in Geneva by refusing not only to ban but even to limit production and deployment of these weapons, it said. Moscow walked out of the talks last November as deployment of U.S. cruise missiles in Europe began.

"The USA was not willing to renounce this new type of weapon and as a result long-range cruise missiles are now under testing in the USSR too," Pravda said.

Chinese foreign minister starts L. American tour

PEKING (R) — Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian left Tuesday on a trip to four Latin American countries to broaden China's diplomatic ties with the region.

China felt the area was very important and wanted friendly relations with all Latin American countries, Mr. Wu told the New China News Agency before leaving for Mexico, Venezuela, Argentina and Brazil.

He said China had diplomatic ties with only 15 Latin American nations although it traded with many more.

The Nationalist Chinese and Taiwan have diplomatic ties with almost all Central American nations, plus Uruguay, Paraguay and Bolivia.

A senior Latin American diplomat said Chinese officials told him Mr. Wu's tour was part of a diplomatic offensive this year in an area where they felt they had not been doing enough.

The diplomat said Mr. Wu was returning visits to China by several Latin American leaders.

Mr. Wu said in a newspaper interview last week China supported Latin American nations on all fronts, adding that Washington and Moscow should stop all military interference and threats in Central America.

He said China backed the efforts of the Contadora Group of Mexico, Venezuela, Panama and Colombia to resolve conflicts there.

On the economic front, Mr. Wu said industrialised nations should take note of recent proposals by Latin American debtor countries aimed at reducing the burden of interest rates on the developing world.

China said Tuesday that the main problems in talks with Britain on Hong Kong's future had been solved, and Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian spoke of a breakthrough in the negotiations.

The optimistic note was sounded after four days of talks with British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe.

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Mozambican feigned dumbness for 21 years

MAPUTO (R) — A Mozambican who feigned dumbness for 21 years in order to win sympathy, broke his silence when troops mistook him for an anti-government rebel, the newspaper Noticias reported Monday. Antonio Magaia, a tobacco factory worker, had convinced his friends, colleagues and even his wife Rosa that he was dumb until he encountered an army roadblock set up in a hunt for anti-government rebels, the newspaper said. When troops took him for a rebel, Magaia broke his silence. Noticias added that he was dumb since 1963 believing employers took kindly to disabled people.

Siamese Twins separated

TORONTO (AP) — Doctors who separated 2½ year old Siamese Twins chose to leave the more aggressive twin as a boy while turning the other into a girl, says the head of a team that performed the operation. And while doctors maintain that the Burmese infants, Lin and Win Htur, have a 95 per cent chance of recovering physically from their complicated surgery at the hospital for sick children, they admit the future may hold psychological problems for the two. Dr. Robert Filler, in charge of the team that conducted the operation Saturday, and Dr. Geoffrey Barker, director of the hospital's Intensive Care Unit, told reporters Monday the children are both in stable but critical condition. "So far so good is all I can say," Dr. Filler said. "They're doing as well as we could expect." The recovery of Win, now a girl, is about 24 hours behind her brother due to a second operation Sunday to repair a blood vessel. The next four or five days are critical to her recovery, the doctors said. Siamese Twins develop from a single fertilised egg that has divided imperfectly. The two children were joined below the diaphragm, roughly in the shape of a Y.

British MPs told they talk too much

LONDON (R) — British members of parliament talk too much and their House of Commons speeches should be limited to 10 minutes, a members' committee has suggested. But the report Monday by the Procedures Committee recommended special rules for ministers and leading opposition spokesmen, who would be allowed to talk on for 30 minutes. The changes would avert tedious rambling and allow more members to say their piece in big debates, it said. But there were immediate cries of outrage from backbenchers. Conservative Sir Bernard Braine protested that ministers were the worst offenders, while opposition Labour member Denis Skinner said the rules should be the same for everybody.

U.S. plans to build 150-story building

NEW YORK (AP) — Hoping to make New York the home of the world's tallest building again, one of the city's best-known developers, Donald Trump, has outlined plans for a 150-story tower which would rise 591 metres above the East River in lower Manhattan. The proposed \$1 billion office, hotel, and apartment building would be nearly 152 metres taller than the 110-story Sears Tower in Chicago, which is about 31 metres higher than New York's World Trade Centre. "New York City deserves to have the tallest and greatest building in the world, and I would be very interested in doing it," Mr. Trump said in an interview published in Tuesday's New York Times. Mr. Trump said he has been planning a tapered tower on the East River site with 60 floors of offices on the bottom, a 40-story luxury hotel in the middle, and 50 stories of "superluxury apartments" on top.

London's Dorchester hotel sold

LONDON (R) — One of London's most prestigious luxury hotels was sold Monday to a Hong Kong-based company for more than £40 million (nearly \$53 million), a spokesman for the buyers said. The 285-room Dorchester was bought by Regent International Hotels, which already controls hotels in the United States, Asia and Australia. The hotel was sold in 1976 by the McAlpine family, who built it in 1931, to an Arab syndicate for £9.5 million. In 1979 it was bought by other Middle Eastern interests for a reported £17 million.

13 die in Scottish train crash

EDINBURGH, Scotland (R) — At least 13 people were killed and up to 100 injured Monday when an express train packed with commuters hurtled off its track half-way between Edinburgh and Glasgow, railway officials said.

The rush-hour train, with about 300 passengers, appeared to hit a stray farm animal on the track near the village of Polmont, 32 kilometres west of the Scottish capital, a spokesman for state-run British Rail said.

He said an even worse tragedy was averted when a second train managed to halt just short of the derailment.

"It was just utter devastation," one witness commented. "There were severed limbs all over the place."

The leading coach, one of six, appeared to somersault before plunging into the embankment. Other coaches careened along, tearing up the track and demolishing a stone wall.

The mangled remains of the hit animal were found scattered several hundred metres away from the scene.

A fleet of ambulances ferried the injured to nearby hospitals as dozens of firemen helped rescue teams search for and free survivors trapped in the wreckage.

Debris was found flung into surrounding fields and woodlands. Communications were also reported hampered because trackside telephone lines were destroyed.

The accident was Britain's worst for 17 years. In November 1967, a passenger train was derailed in South London, killing 49 people and injuring 78.

Monday's tragedy was the second on the same stretch of track. Last year three railway workers died when they were hit by a train while working just outside Polmont.

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Soviets keep pressure on Afghan rebels

NEW DELHI, (AP) — Soviet troops last week bombed two strategic valleys in northern Afghanistan in a continuing offensive against rebels. Western diplomats said Tuesday.

Soviet and Afghan troops last week combined air and ground forces to bomb guerrilla strongholds in northern Panjsher Valley and Logar Valley just south of Kabul, the diplomats said.

The offensive began two weeks ago.

Twelve members of a family were killed July 25 during Soviet air raids in northern Shomali area, the sources said.

Soviet troops, however, were held back by rebels in Panjsher Valley when a column of soldiers tried to move beyond Khenj, the diplomats said.

"The Soviet tactic seems to be to combine air and ground forces to trap Mujahideen rebels and force them into remote side valleys or expose them on ridges," one diplomat said.

Babrak Karmal, president of Afghanistan still reported to be in the Soviet Union. Several top officials of the Afghan government, including the Minister for Defence Abdul Qader and Chief of Armed Forces Gen. Nazir Mohammad, have visited the Soviet Union this month, the diplomats said.

The reason for their unannounced visits was unknown but there were unconfirmed rumours that Mr. Karmal is in "bad physical shape," one diplomat said.

Anti-Marxist guerrillas killed eight Afghan soldiers on July 5 during an attack on the governor's

house in Ghazni province.

Heavy fighting was reported in the strategic valley on July 17 and Soviet forces bombed rebel hideouts, especially near Astana town, the diplomats said.

"The Soviets want to hold the lower part of the valley to deny Mujahideen rebels a base for attacks," one diplomat said.

The Afghan regime, meanwhile, exhibited arms and documents showing foreign links seized during the recent operation in Panjsher Valley, one diplomat said.

During a press conference held last week the government also claimed to have captured and killed several rebel leaders, the diplomat said.

Thatcher resists new KGB spy probe

LONDON (AP) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is expected to stonewall political pressure for an investigation into renewed allegations of Soviet penetration of M15, Britain's counter-intelligence agency.

The allegations by former M15 officer Peter Wright, resurfacing ghosts of a long line of betrayals stretching back to Guy Burgess, Donald MacLean and Kim Philby, have been dismissed by government officials as "old hat."

Mr. Wright, now living in Tasmania, Australia, is one of a group of serving and retired officials of M15 and the Secret Intelligence Service (SIS), formerly known as M16, who have been pressing for a probe into alleged Soviet infiltration of Britain's spy organisations and the top of the civil service.

The Observer newspaper said Sunday government officials believe Mrs. Thatcher, reported to be "furious" at the rekindled espionage scandal, will have to allow a wide-ranging investigation.

The paper quoted officials as saying Mrs. Thatcher would find it "almost impossible to resist" the pressure from alarmed legislators of her Conservative Party.

Mr. Wright, 69, whose job was to uncover security risks within the intelligence establishment, has said he is prepared to testify about infiltration by the KGB, the Soviet intelligence organisation.

Mrs. Thatcher has made clear that Mr. Wright, who was personal assistant to M15 Director Sir Michael Hanley before he retired in 1976, will not be granted immunity from prosecution under the official secrets act if he returns to Britain and repeats his allegations.

The Liberal Guardian newspaper said the government's "no guarantees" stand underlines its "anxiety to end speculation" about Mr. Wright's allegations.

Mr. Wright's charges centre on long-running allegations that Sir Roger Hollis, head of M15 from 1956 to 1965, was a Soviet agent. Sir Roger died in 1973.

But in a 160-page dossier Wright also has claimed that KGB infiltrated more than 200 agents in British intelligence and government departments after World War II. He claims only a dozen or so were uncovered.

Mr. Wright has sent a copy of the dossier to Sir Anthony Kershaw, a Conservative legislator who is chairman of the House of Commons all-party Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Sir Anthony, who claims he has gathered support among other Conservative lawmakers, said Sunday: "There is considerable anxiety over this. If the government does not act it will be a mistake."

Sir Anthony said he was surprised at the government's reaction to Mr. Wright's offer to testify before the government's security commission.

"To prosecute a person who has raised this matter, and who is not alone in doing so, could look rather like a cover-up," he said.

Mrs. Thatcher told parliament in 1981 that a security investigation had uncovered no evidence that Sir Roger was a Soviet agent.

Sir Roger was the subject of at least four probes, the last in 1974. Arthur Martin, a former M15 officer, said in a letter to the Times of London July 19 that the "decade of unease" over Sir Roger and others developed because the investigation team was disbanded and the case allowed to lapse.

He said Mr. Wright had been "a dedicated officer," but said his allegations were "an exaggeration" because there was only "circumstantial evidence" against Sir Roger.

Mr. Wright claimed that M15 had drawn up a list of 48 prominent figures suspected of being Soviet agents.

One of the people named, Sir Edward Playfair, a former permanent secretary at the Defense Ministry, called the allegations " rubbish." He said he probably got on to the alleged list because he was a friend of confessed Soviet spy Anthony Blunt and others cited.

Blunt, publicly exposed in 1979, was Queen Elizabeth II's art historian. He died last year.

Since his exposure, and his links with other well-placed officials unmasked as Soviet agents, the debate about KGB penetration of M15 and M16 has intensified.

Concern grew following the accidental discovery of Geoffrey Prime, a translator at the top-secret electronic surveillance centre. He was jailed in November, 1982, for 35 years after confessing he had been an agent for 14 years.

Some 16 key Soviet agents have been uncovered in British intelligence since 1946. The most prominent were Burgess and MacLean who defected to Moscow in 1951, and Philby, who betrayed scores of Western agents and followed them in 1963.

U.S. intelligence has long believed that there are more Soviet agents in the British services.

A middle-ranking M15 officer Michael Bettaney was jailed earlier this year for trying to spy for the Soviets.

The latest controversy has underlined Britons' morbid fascination for running down old moles.

But it also has rekindled uncertainty about the seeds of treachery sown nearly 50 years ago in the cloisters of Cambridge and Oxford Universities, where a generation of spies was recruited.

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